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Picture: PHIL HOUGHTON

BLUE FOR YOU: Helen Grant, Conservative prospective parliamentary candidate for Maidstone and the Weald, leads the applause as KCC leader Cllr Paul Clark savours the results at County Hall

LABOUR'S ELECTION WIPEOUT

Conservatives swept back to power with landslide victory

By JENNA PUDELEK and STEVE KNIGHT

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

LABOUR has been wiped off the face of the county's political map.

The party kept just two seats as the Conservatives were returned to power with a thumping majority in Thursday's Kent County Council elections.

As Prime Minister Gordon Brown spent Friday trying to hang on to power, his Kent candidates were left facing four years in the political wilderness.

While the Tories increased their number of councillors from 56 to 74, Labour lost all but two of its 20 seats.

The Liberal Democrats gained one seat to finish Friday's count with seven councillors.

Unseated Labour group leader Mike Eddy said voters would pay a heavy price for kicking out his party, claiming the Lib Dems would not hold the Tories to account. He said: "The people of Kent will come to regret the way they have voted very quickly and I think it's going to be an absolute disaster."

But a jubilant Conservative leader Cllr Paul Carter told Kent on Sunday: "I think what's going on in national politics and what we're doing locally at county level acted together and has given us a very strong mandate to govern.

"In my view it sends a clear message from the electorate, telling the Labour Government that they want an election and they want them out.

"So come on – let's have a general election."

See inside for full county council election results, reports and reaction

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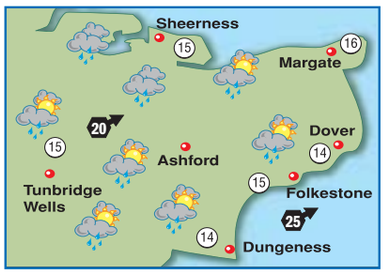
Kent today



TODAY: A breezy and cool day for June. There will be some sunny spells but showers will develop and become heavy with a risk of thunder. Driest on the coast. Strong winds. Max temp 13-16C (55-61F).
TONIGHT: Showers will move away east to leave clear spells. Brisk winds. Min temp 8-11C (46-52F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	cloudy	12	54	London	showers	14	57
Belfast	showers	15	59	Liverpool	showers	15	59
Birmingham	cloudy	14	57	Manchester	rain	13	55
B'mouth	rain	13	55	Newcastle	showers	12	54
Bristol	showers	14	57	Norwich	showers	14	57
Cardiff	rain	13	55	Oxford	rain	14	57
Cork	showers	12	54	Southsea	showers	14	57
Edinburgh	cloudy	12	54	S'hampton	showers	14	57
Glasgow	cloudy	15	59	Southport	sun	–	–
Isle of Man	showers	14	57	Swansea	rain	13	55
Leeds	showers	11	52	Torquay	showers	15	59

Sun & moon

Sunrise	4.39am	Sunset	9.10pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	9.34pm	Moonset	3.49am	9.10pm to 4.38am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)
Dover	11.44	6.2	–	–	00.02	6.2	12.23	6.3
Margate	00.26	4.4	12.44	4.4	01.09	4.4	13.19	4.4
St Mary's	05.11	5.0	17.30	5.2	05.50	5.0	18.08	5.2

Week ahead

monday The odd shower. max 17C min 11C

tuesday Heavy s"howers. max 17C min 11C

wednesday A few showers. max 18C min 11C

thursday Cloudy. Dry. max 20C min 12C

friday Sunny spells. max 22C min 12C

saturday Cloudy. Dry. max 23C min 12C

- **EDITOR:** Ian Patel
- **ADDRESS:** Apple Barn, Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SR.
- **WEBSITE:** www.kentnews.co.uk
- **MOBILE WAP SERVICE:** www.kentnews.co.uk/mobile
- **TELEPHONE:** 01303 817000
- **FAX (ADVERTISING):** 01303 817001
- **FAX (EDITORIAL):** 01303 817002
- **EMAIL:**
  EDITORIAL: editorial@kosmedia.co.uk
  ADVERTISING: sales@kosmedia.co.uk

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Health chief says it's up to us to avoid swine flu

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

PERSONAL hygiene is vital to containing the swine flu outbreak in Kent, a public health expert has urged.

Dr Declan O'Neill, assistant director of public health at NHS West Kent, urged people not to panic, but not to be complacent after the county saw its first confirmed cases of the contagious virus this week.

"It is about watch and see at the moment with a certain amount of speculation.

"Personal hygiene is the one viable thing we can all do and that can change things," he said.

Complacent

"If you are anxious then that is the thing you can do to help yourself. We do not want people to be overly anxious but we do not want people to be complacent either – so do something."

The first case of swine flu was announced on Monday in west Kent. The primary care trust said the case was a man who had recently travelled to America.

On Wednesday, it was revealed that a schoolboy from the east of the county also had the virus and that it was associated with the outbreak at Eton College in Berkshire.

Another two cases linked to the Eton outbreak were confirmed in west Kent on Friday. The children and man affected are all being treated at home with anti-viral medicines.

Concern over the spread of the virus has increased this week after a man in Scotland became the first Britain to become critically ill solely because of swine flu.

CATCH IT, BIN IT: NHS chief says personal hygiene is the best way to avoid swine flu

Worldwide the swine flu outbreak has killed 125 people and infected almost 22,000. In the UK there were 486 confirmed cases on Friday.

Dr O'Neill said that here in the UK the virus was still officially at 'containment phase' meaning it was not yet proven to be spreading uncontrolled in the community.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has not changed its rating of five, which is pre-pandemic, he said.

Asked about reports that the WHO was close to declaring a global pandemic after a surge in cases around the world, he said: "They will always be considering upping it, but they have not done so yet.

"The situation at the moment is that we are in, in this county and most of the world, outside North American, is containment.

"We have been containing it and the cases we have had have been related to cases from the epicentre."

Dr O'Neill said the case in Scotland was severe but experts were aware that the virus had the potential of getting worse.

"We are watching it expectantly," he said. "We should be aware and anxious but not panicking.

"What we should be doing is making sure we are doing everything we can at this stage, and on an individual level that means heightened personal hygiene.

"If you have symptoms of a cold, are sneezing or feel unwell, be sensible. Use tissues when you sneeze or blow your nose and dispose of them immediately.

"Wash your hands and generally raise hygiene. We can do a lot and people can do a lot for themselves."

Dr O'Neill was keen to point out that NHS organisations and the Health Protection Agency had been preparing for a flu epidemic for four years and that there were stockpiles of anti-viral drugs.

• ***Advice for anyone who has flu-like symptoms and have recently returned from swine-flu affected countries such as Mexico and the US or been in contact with someone who has is to stay at home and contact your GP by phone or NHS Direct on 0845 4647.***

Entrepreneur in the market for a win

A FORMER City worker who swapped sales markets for a market stall has won a UK-wide business award.

Matthew Crawford, from Strood, has been crowned the first ever Make Your Mark in the Markets champion – winning £1,500 and a host of other prizes.

The 30-year-old entrepreneur came past 30 other shortlisted entrants to claim first prize and has the global recession to thank.

The successful stallholder was laid off from his role as a high-flying business development manager in December.

Worried about how to support his young family, and with a long-held desire to run his own business, Matt invested his last pay cheque into setting up his business Easy'Nuh – which provides fresh, authentic Caribbean takeaway food on a traditional market stall in Gillingham High Street.

After picking up his first prize award at a Parliamentary reception on Tuesday, Matt said: "Being laid off is the best thing that's ever happened to me.

"I've always wanted to set up my own business but have never had the opportunity, so I jumped at the chance to enter the competition.

"Taking part in Make Your Mark in the Markets has been an amazing experience and we've really been encouraged by the positive reaction from visitors to the stall.

"We've even had interest from a potential investor interested in funding an Easy'Nuh restaurant venture.

"We have big plans for the business so winning this competition is the stepping stone we need to take Easy'Nuh to the next level.

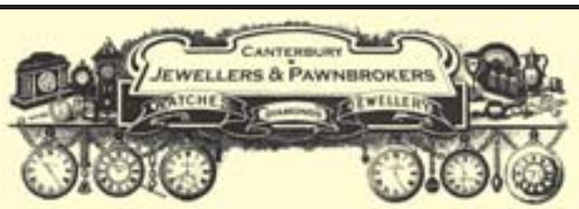
"This is just the beginning for us and I can't wait to get back on the market and trading for free for the next six months.

"Coming from a sales background I've spent my career generating returns for my employers, so it's nice to finally be in a position to generate some money for myself."

Make Your Mark in the Markets is run by Enterprise Insight.

Chief executive Harry Rich said: "Matt's success is testament to what can be achieved with a great idea, lots of hard work and dedication.

"It's entrepreneurs that will take us out of the economic downturn, so Matt's story is a great inspiration to others that might find themselves facing a tough time in the economic climate."



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Fired Apprentice star tells of intense pressure

YOU'RE OUT: Lorraine Tighe was fired from The Apprentice by Sir Alan, inset

FIRED Apprentice contestant Lorraine Tighe has blamed the hit BBC show for leaving her on the brink of a breakdown.

The 36-year-old from Kent missed out on a place in this evening's final after being one of three candidates sent packing from Sir Alan Sugar's boardroom on Wednesday.

But while fellow contestant Mona Lewis, from Sittingbourne, told Kent on Sunday last month how she was pleased with how she had been portrayed on the show, Ms Tighe claims she has been left to pick up the pieces of her own broken reputation.

She told reporters this week she sympathised with Britain's Got Talent runner-up Susan Boyle, who has suffered a breakdown after weeks in the international spotlight.

Ms Tighe said: "I totally feel sorry for Susan – I'm surprised I haven't ended up in The Priory myself. I really feel for her because I know exactly what she's going through.

"Unfortunately you put yourself up for these kinds of shows – and you have to put yourself up to be put down."

Filming for this series of The Apprentice – which included a task to re-brand Margate – was carried out last year, meaning Ms Tighe has been living in the real world while a string of damaging stories about her have been run by the national press. The mother-of-two admitted she did not enjoy reading about how she used to be a swinger and how she is banned for life from travelling with the airline BMI.

Ms Tighe said: "I'm disappointed with the way the press have reacted. I was on there to enhance my career and not be media fodder, which is what I've become. I'm not so much worried about myself in all of this. I was more concerned about the impact on my family.

"I don't normally read tabloids and nothing could have prepared me for the impact this show would have on my family. But I will put it right. Watch this space, I will come back."

The penultimate episode of The Apprentice saw Ms Tighe and her four fellow semi-finalists grilled in interviews by Sir Alan's most trusted business colleagues.

He decided to fire Ms Tighe after being warned by one that she would "drive him up the wall". Office joker James McQuillan and Debra Barr were also shown the door.

The final, which airs tonight at 9pm on BBC One, will see Kate Walsh and restaurateur Yasmina Siadatan battle it out in a task to design a new brand of chocolates.

Wind on the water

DESPITE a lack of wind and soaring temperatures, an inspirational quadriplegic yachtswoman has reached the Welsh stage of her round Britain voyage, ***writes Jenna Pudelek***.

Hilary Lister, from Canterbury, re-launched her world record attempt to sail solo around the UK on May 24 in Plymouth after bad weather forced her to abandon last year's challenge.

Kent on Sunday spoke to the 37-year-old this week as she prepared to leave Milford Haven on the coast of south Wales and sail north towards Fishguard.

"It's going alright," she said. "We've had no wind, which has been a bit frustrating, but we've done a bit now and we're moving. There's plenty of wind now – it's worrying me there may be too much. It's also been very hot, which is hard as I cannot regulate my own body temperature [because of her condition]."

But despite a disheartening week becalmed in Padstow, the ambitious yachtswoman was determined to press on and arrived in Bude, Cornwall, on Tuesday.

Her boat, Me Too, an Artemis 20, which is a carbon-fibre keelboat designed by Rogers Yacht Design, is controlled using a 'sip and puff' system.

Three straws, connected to sensitive pressure switches, are used and a gentle sip on one takes the boat starboard (right) and a puff on the other takes it to port (left).

Mrs Lister spoke of the challenges she has encountered so far: "Physically it's quite hard work, but that's the game. I'm enjoying it, but every so often there are moments where I'm sitting there not going anywhere or going backwards even."

Last year, when Mrs Lister left Dover on June 16 on her first attempt, she sailed the entire length of the south coast but had to stop in Newlyn on August 13 due to consistently poor weather and gales. But it meant she has already sailed further than any woman with disabilities. If she completes the round Britain challenge she will become the first quadriplegic woman to have achieved the feat. Mrs Lister, whose condition is a result of a progressive neurological disorder, said her aim is to raise awareness of disabled sailing and to raise funds for her charity, Hilary's Dream Trust, which helps disabled and disadvantaged adults with sailing ambitions.

Before setting out on the re-launched challenge, she told KoS: "I think the first aim is to demonstrate that people who are disabled are actually incredibly able. It is about taking the 'dis' out of disability."

Anecdotes about her trip and the supporters she meets along the way are told on Mrs Lister's blog and Twitter page.

Arriving in Bude, she describes the "amazing welcome" and spotting an ice-cream shop next to her mooring, she joked: "So my first priority was obvious."

Log on at www.hilarylister.com for more information. Alternatively, visit http://twitter.com/HilaryLister.

Picture: IAN SNELL

SITTING PRETTY: Sailor Hilary Lister has reached the Welsh stage of her epic voyage

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Tourist plunges to death in NZ

A TOURIST from Kent died after falling 33ft from a roof while on holiday in New Zealand.

The body of 25-year-old James Smith was found in an alleyway between a backpackers' hostel and a bar, at about 1.40am New Zealand time on Friday.

It is thought Mr Smith may have been thrown out of the bar earlier in the night and climbed the building's fire escape in an attempt to get back in.

Police said the death did not appear to be suspicious and that initial investigations suggested it had been an accident.

His family have been informed.

Shamed Bethell gets four years

SHAMED former DJ Barry Bethell has been jailed for four years. Bethell appeared at Canterbury Crown Court for sentencing on Friday, where Judge Adele Williams told him: "This cannot be dealt with in any way other than imprisonment."

Bethell, 66, from Seasalter, was found guilty last month of indecently assaulting an 11-year-old girl.

He was also found guilty on three counts of taking indecent photographs of a six-year-old, but was cleared of indecently assaulting another girl. He also admitted seven counts of taking indecent photos of girls under 13 and one of possessing indecent images from the internet.

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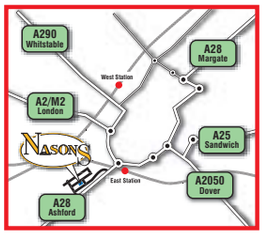

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No need for general election say MPs loyal to Prime Minister

County's Labour MPs back Brown

By CHRIS MURPHY
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

KENT'S Labour MPs have rallied behind the Prime Minister to help fend off calls for him to quit and call a general election.

Party vice-chairman Steve Ladyman, a former junior minister, is defending a slim 664 majority in his Thanet South constituency. He said: "Gordon Brown and the Labour government are doing a great job.

"They have steered us out of a world economic slowdown and the time for a general election is when that job is complete.

"Those who are calling for an election are doing it for selfish party political reasons, not because they put the country first."

The PM is embroiled in the ever-growing expenses row, with ministers now seemingly dropping like flies.

Hazel Blears resigned as Communities and Local Government Secretary on Wednesday, a month after Mr Brown called her expenses "totally unacceptable". And on Thursday Work and Pensions Secretary James Purnell quit, demanding Mr Brown "stand aside". The move forced a Cabinet reshuffle on Friday in the face of increasing discontent on the Labour backbenches over the PM's leadership.

But rebellious Labour MPs were issued a warning by Business Secretary Lord Mandelson, who said: "There are Labour MPs who are in a very grumbly mood, but British politics is in a bad old state. Nobody is happy and it is affecting all the parties. Don't make it any worse for the Labour Party."

Gillingham member and a transport minister Paul Clark said: "Should he stand down? No. And we do not want a general election now. What we need to be doing is concentrating on things that matter, like leading this country out of recession.

"Every party has been let down by some MPs and the country has been let down by some MPs by issues surrounding expenses.

"That needs to be cleared up as quickly as possible and dealt with independently."

Howard Stoate, member for Dartford, also wants Mr Brown to stay in office and sort out the economy before an election next year.

He said: "It would be too much of a diversion to have a long drawn out leadership battle and general election."

BACKING: Prime Minister Gordon Brown has the support of Labour MPs in Kent

A spokesman for Dover and Deal MP Gwyn Prosser said he too backed Mr Brown, and didn't want to see a general election this year.

Mum accused of helping offender

THE mother of a man accused of the murder of a teenager in Faversham has been charged with helping him try and conceal the crime.

Adam Beaney, 19, was killed by a single stab wound to his chest. He was found slumped near public toilets in Faversham Recreation Ground in the early hours of May 30.

Maxine Liddell, 42, of Lewis Close, Faversham, was charged on Thursday with assisting an offender. She will appear at Sittingbourne Magistrates Court on June 17.

Her son Rickie Mount, 20, of Edward Vinson Close, Faversham, appeared at the same court charged with murder on Tuesday. He was remanded in custody to appear at Maidstone Crown Court on June 22.

A 59-year-old woman has been bailed to attend Sittingbourne Police on June 17, when detectives will decide whether to charge her.

To see this search 'Port Lympne'
@ yourkenttv.co.uk

This year there have been more than 100 births at Port Lympne and Howletts wild animal parks.

...while Lib Dem says it's time for a change

FORMER leader of the Liberal Democrats, Paddy Ashdown, has joined the growing call for a general election.

As public anger over the MPs' expenses row continues, Gordon Brown faces mounting pressure to let the people decide the Government's future. In an interview with Kent on Sunday, Mr Ashdown urged the Prime Minister to announce a general election as soon as possible.

"The longer this runs on, the more damage it will do," he said. "I have no doubt whatsoever that anyone interested in the best interests of the country will call an election."

Mr Ashdown will visit Canterbury later this month as part of his tour to promote his autobiography, A Fortunate Life.

During the tour, audiences have had the chance to ask him questions and it has given him ample opportunity to gauge the public's frustration.

"There's a huge amount of anger and justifiably. People... believed in the integrity of Parliament and discovered they were wrong to believe in it.

"It will not be over until the public has spoken and the slate will not be wiped clean until they've had their say. It will not be over until there is an election."

Mr Ashdown was speaking to Kent on Sunday on Thursday, as the country went to the polls for the first time since the expenses scandal broke.

The results of the elections were not known at the time, but he described Mr Brown's chances of staying in office until next May as "not impossible, but unlikely", adding: "They (Labour) have become a party that has lost its head, but how they will react, I don't know."

• Read the full interview in next week's Kent on Sunday. Mr Ashdown will be at the International Study Centre in Canterbury at 7.30pm on June 18, call 01227 787787 or see www.newmarlowetheatre.org.uk.

Picture: JASON SHELDON

Appeal for witness to police crash

THE police watchdog is trying to trace the driver of a van who was in the area when a young mother of three was killed in a crash involving an unmarked police car.

The Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) said witnesses had described seeing a small van near the collision scene just north of the Longfield Road roundabout on the A21 near Tunbridge Wells.

Felicity Austin, 29, was killed when the black Renault Megane she was driving was in collision with an unmarked Metropolitan Police car, a black Skoda, at around 12.30pm on May 5. The IPCC said it is believed the van was parked at the side of the road at the time of the crash.

Commissioner Mike Franklin said: "We have had a very positive response to witness appeals so far and I would like to thank all those who have come forward to help with our investigation."

Anybody who witnessed the collision is asked to contact either Kent Police on 01622 798 538 or the IPCC on 0207 166 3000.

Hairy, scary and out in force

EXPERTS are warning people to stay away from hairy caterpillars that can cause nasty rashes and even breathing difficulties, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

The creatures are brown tail moth caterpillars, and if handled the insects' millions of tiny hairs can stick in the skin, causing itching or even triggering an allergic reaction.

The danger is due to last another month or so, until they turn into harmless moths.

The caterpillars have been commonplace in Kent for decades, but now appear to be spreading across the UK with reports of people being affected in the north and the west country.

A restaurant in Folkestone closed part of its car park while the caterpillars were dealt with. They are often seen in large eye-catching cobweb-like nests called 'tents'.

Tiny barbs

The hairs can break off and be carried in air currents. Up close they look like tiny barbs.

The Health Protection Agency advises anyone who comes into contact with the hairs to wash their hands and eyes, and use calamine lotion if they develop a rash.

A Dover District Council official said: "They feed on the buds and young leaves of mainly rosaceous trees and shrubs, but will also attach to other deciduous trees causing complete defoliation in a short period, depending on the caterpillar density.

"The brown tail moth caterpillar is blackish-grey in colour with tufts of ginger brown hairs. The most noticeable feature is the two orange spots near the tail."

The moths can lay up to 300 eggs, and each tent can have about 2,000 caterpillars.

Pictures: EXOSECT

A spokesman from the council's pest control department said: "In spring the caterpillars emerge and disperse over foliage. They feed on the leaves until they are about 1.5 inches in length. Later in the summer they moult, pupate and emerge as adult moths."

The creatures can devastate trees if they become established in large numbers. Experts say the simplest way of controlling the caterpillars is to inspect trees in the autumn and remove any tents by pruning the twigs they are on. The tents should be burnt on site, or placed in a plastic bag and disposed of in a dustbin.

Avoid disturbing the tents while removing them and protect yourself by wearing gloves.

Richard Fox, the moth project manager at the Butterfly Conservation Trust, said the weather was responsible for the caterpillars' rapid spread. He said: "They are spreading north and west and are now common in London and southern England. This is probably due to climate change."

Phil Harris is the director of pest control company Exosect, which specialises in tackling browntail moths. He said: "They really can be quite nasty and cause some nasty rashes. If anyone is worried about them being in their garden, my advice would be to call in the experts."

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Patients and health staff screened after TB alert

NINETEEN patients have been offered tests after it emerged a healthcare worker at Maidstone Hospital has tuberculosis.

Hospital bosses have confirmed the worker has the disease, but say he is making a good recovery.

The patients and members of staff at the hospital who came into contact with the worker are being offered screening as a precaution.

Dr Sara Mumford, director of infection prevention and control at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust, said: "The safety of patients and staff is our prime concern. Staff who worked alongside the healthcare worker are being offered screening at the same time as the patients. I want to stress the risk to both patients and staff is minimal."

Dr Mathi Chandrakumar, director of the Health Protection Agency's Kent Health Protection Unit, said: "As a precautionary measure TB screening is being offered to patients and staff who may have been exposed while the healthcare worker was unaware of their infection. In a previous case when TB was found in a worker in a Kent hospital, many people were screened and none of them was found to have TB, so the risk is low."

Letters to the affected patients have already been sent. TB is a disease which is caused by infection with Mycobacterium tuberculosis, which usually affects the lungs but can affect other parts of the body, and it is completely treatable.

It is usually transmitted when a person with disease in the lung has "close and sustained contact" with others, such as household members.

Symptoms include fever and night sweats, a persistent cough, weight loss and blood in sputum. The symptoms usually take several months to appear. More information can be found at www.hpa.org.uk/infections.

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Polish family in tribute to bike tragedy victim

THE family of a Polish woman killed in a road accident in Kent have paid tribute to a "very popular girl". Ania Kobylka, 28, died in hospital from head injuries suffered when the motorcycle she was on collided with a car in Crescent Road, Tunbridge Wells.

TRAGIC LOSS: Ania Kobylka

Police said her parents were now in England and hoped to return home with Ms Kobylka's body for burial in her home town of Lubartow. A family statement released on their behalf by police says she also leaves behind an elder sister and a younger brother. It adds: "She first came to England in 2005 to improve her English. She returned home after a year to finish her studies and graduated in 2007 with a masters degree.

"She returned to England to continue her studies and rented a house in Southborough with her fiancé Adam. Ania was a very popular girl and held several part-time jobs in Tunbridge Wells, caring for the disabled, housekeeping and cleaning."

Adam, who was on the bike with Ms Kobylka at the time of the accident, was also taken to King's College Hospital, London. Police did not reveal what condition he was in.

The family statement adds: "Ania donated organs to help others in their fight for life. Tributes from friends say she had a beautiful smile and always wanted to help people."

The couple's motorcycle collided with a blue Audi A6 at about 9.30pm on May 19. Police are asking witnesses to call 01622 798538.

Health visitor help 'a postcode lottery'

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

ACCESS to health visitors across Kent and Medway remains a postcode lottery, new research has revealed.

The Family and Parenting Institute calculated the ratio of health visitors to children under five in England, and found huge variations around the country.

In Kent, Eastern and Coastal Kent Primary Care Trust had one health visitor for every 312 children, whereas County Durham PCT has one of its professionals for every 165 children, the institute found.

Eastern and Coastal Kent Primary Care Trust has 103 health visitors.

The Community Practitioner and Health Visitor Association recommends health visitors have a maximum caseload of 250.

Health visitors provide a valuable service to parents. They develop relationships with new mothers and fathers by visiting their homes and dealing with their concerns.

They are able to detect problems such as postnatal depression, domestic violence and child abuse. In 2007, the institute launched an investigation into the service nationally and surveyed PCTs to discover how much access parents had to health visitors.

It found that West Kent PCT had cut 10 health visitor posts in January of that year to make savings. As a result it would be mainly vulnerable children who would be visited regularly by health visitors, and nursery nurses would see other patients.

The research found west Kent has a ratio of 257 children to each of its 157 health visitors.

But the PCT's budget per child for health visiting was £131, which compares with £217 in the east of the county.

Asked if only the most vulnerable children were able to access health visitors in west Kent, Sarah Fletcher, the PCT's assistant director for children, families and young people, said: "NHS West Kent Community Health provides a service for all children and families in west Kent. Health visiting forms an integral part of this service, which also includes support from GPs and their teams, and children's centre staff.

"All families have access to the health visiting service and those with additional needs will receive an enhanced level of service, with key contact points in the first year of life. For example, when the baby is first born, at three to four months, and at a year.

"If the child or mother becomes more vulnerable, at any stage, the health visiting team would offer a higher level of service than the level available to all. If, for example, a mother or child became seriously ill, or a mother suffered from postnatal depression, this additional service would be offered."

Liz Bailey, head of children's services for Medway Community Healthcare, said: "Health visitors provide a very important service to families with young children. In Medway, health visitors work closely in integrated teams with other professionals such as speech therapists.

"This allows children to get the right care from the right person at the right time and allows the whole team to support families, where needed. What matters is that children get the services they need."

Medway has 51 health visitors and spends more than £1.9m on the service annually.

"Parents need a commitment from the Government and health authorities that their baby's health and wellbeing is a top priority," said Mary MacLeod, chief executive of the Family and Parenting Institute.

"Well-trained health visitors with manageable caseloads is the way to go about it."

News and sport updated daily online
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FAMILIES who want their children to apply for a place at a Kent grammar school can now register to take the 11-plus. Kent County Council said those who wanted to apply for a grammar school place in September, 2010, must register before July 10 to take the Kent test.

Rosalind Turner, director of children, families and education at KCC, said: "Even if a grammar school is only a consideration at this stage, it is worth families registering as their child has nothing to lose by taking the test. They will get the test assessment in mid-October, giving them three weeks to decide which schools to apply for."

Registration forms can be obtained from primary schools or requested on 01622 696565. Children at Kent schools will sit tests on September 15 and 16. Those from outside the local authority area will take the exam on September 19.

Results will be sent out by October 20.

Defiant MPs fight back in Commons expenses scandal

By STEVE KNIGHT
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

THREE Kent MPs have come out fighting against accusations that have dragged them into the Commons expenses furore.

Michael Howard (Folkestone and Hythe), Gwyn Prosser (Dover and Deal) and Howard Stoate (Dartford) are among the latest politicians caught up in the row – although all have denied attempting to swindle taxpayers.

Former Tory leader Mr Howard was so incensed by claims he had funnelled £44,000 in public cash to his local Conservative association that he took Daily Telegraph reporter Andrew Porter to task on the BBC's Politics Show.

Michael Howard

He said: "Every penny I paid to my local association was to compensate them for services they provide to me as an MP. I use their office to hold my surgeries and I pay them to advertise my surgeries. Every penny is properly accounted for. If I wanted to hold my surgery in a different office then I would have to pay rent."

According to the Green Book of rules, MPs must avoid arrangements which may give rise to the accusation that money is being diverted for the benefit of a political organisation. However, Mr Porter dodged the question when asked whether the Telegraph was suggesting there was anything improper in what Mr Howard had done.

The £44,000 figure includes employment costs, insurance and other general costs over the last four years. Earlier this week the Telegraph also reported Mr Howard had claimed £17,000 for "gardening services" at his Folkestone home, although he says the company that was paid for the work also carried out general maintenance on the property.

Gwyn Prosser

Meanwhile, Labour's Mr Prosser has come under fire for paying his brother Huw £640 to lay flooring at his London flat – despite living almost 200 miles away, near Swansea. He said: "The Telegraph has all my correspondence with the Fees Office together with the receipts, and they know I declared in writing that I was employing my brother for this work which entailed removal of carpets, laying of laminate flooring, bathroom tiling and treatment of damp.

"They also know I received a quote from Heritage Flooring and two other London contractors, and that the cheapest one – for the flooring job alone – was more than £200 more than my brother's charge for the whole job.

"I contributed to his travel costs out of my own pocket, so at just £650 the work was very good value for money and worked out less than the cost of re-carpeting.

"I defy anyone to laminate three rooms and a hall for that price – and he did other jobs that I didn't claim for."

The Telegraph's story on Kent's third targeted MP, Labour's Dr Stoate, reports he claimed thousands in DIY materials while doing up his second home in London. He said he bought the one-bedroom maisonette in 2001 in an "appalling condition" and carried out extensive repairs to "bring it up to a habitable standard".

Howard Stoate

Dr Stoate told Kent on Sunday: "I've made my figures as open and honest as I can. I've made my position clear and now it's up to the public to make their own minds up."

Mr Howard, Mr Prosser and Dr Stoate are not the first Kent MPs to be targeted by the Telegraph's exposé, which has embarrassed members of all parties and increased the pressure on Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

Labour MPs Bob Marshall-Andrews (Medway), Derek Wyatt (Sittingbourne and Sheppey) and John Austin (Erith and Thamesmead), as well as Tory Michael Fallon (Sevenoaks), have also been pushed into the national spotlight over expenses claims.

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Hazardous waste dump trio fined

THREE men have been fined a total of £16,000 for illegally dumping hazardous waste including asbestos, a freezer, computers and washing machines.

Michael and John Yorke were fined £6,000 each and Stanley Yorke £4,000 after Environment Agency officers discovered an illegal tip on their company's land in Dean Street, Maidstone.

The trio, of S Yorke and Sons Fencing, were also ordered to pay £5,441 in additional costs by Maidstone magistrates.

The agency said the men had also dumped fencing, construction and demolition waste.

An officer said: "Paint tins, white goods and tar-based felt roofing was among the waste, which could poison groundwater. We also found broken asbestos."

The agency was told the company had used the tip for 20 years, but no permission existed for tipping at the site.

Rickson's honour

A RENOWNED theatre director has been appointed honorary professor of drama and theatre studies at the University of Kent.

Ian Rickson, a leading figure in contemporary British theatre, has worked at the National Theatre, the Almeida Theatre and on Broadway.

His recent credits include productions of Chekhov's The Seagull, starring Kristin Scott Thomas and Mackenzie Crook, and Ibsen's Hedda Gabler, starring Mary Louise Parker.

Dr Karl Lydecker, dean of the university's faculty of humanities, said: "Ian Rickson's appointment will add great prestige to the programmes we offer in theatre and drama."

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As Lottery funding runs dry 1,000 families may lose out on professional help

Cuts to end autism support

A VITAL service that supports more than 1,000 families affected by autism is under threat because of a funding crisis.

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

For more than a decade Jo Blamires and Des Walker have been providing professional advice to adults with autism, and parents of autistic children, and advocating their rights to education, health and social care services.

John Franklin, who runs clubs in Kent to support fathers of autistic children and has 20 years of experience working with those affected by the life-long condition, said: "This is a potential situation that if it comes about will be a tsunami of epic proportions for those living with autism in Kent and their families.

"I have been working closely with Kent Autistic Trust (KAT) for years and in particular with their two family support officers and am deeply conscious of what it means for a family to have their support from the diagnosis stage on through life."

Funding from the Lottery for the KAT family support roles runs out in October this year, and the service costs £84,000 annually to provide in its current form. The Lottery has turned down KAT's bid for extra cash to keep the service running.

One in 100 people are affected by autism, but recent research has found that it could be as many as one in every 64 children.

The support officers have 2,483 families on their database as part of their network and are in touch with 1,000 people by email daily.

Concerned parents have been contacting Kent on Sunday all week. They said Mrs Blamires has been providing vital help, especially to get support in schools.

Suzanne Green, who lives in Dover and has a 13-year-old son Robert with autism, said: "Knowing there is someone you can contact is so helpful for peace of mind.

"If you have not got a professional with good advice, if we lose the KAT service, we'll have no one to turn to at all. Ideally we should have more people like Jo and Des, not less."

The support officers work independently from Kent County Council and Medway Council and represent parents at tribunals and through the process of getting statements of special educational needs (SEN), which legally entitle their children to a certain level of support in school.

Mrs Green said: "With Robert the first 18 months at school was hell. He needed 15 hours' one-to-one support per week and was supposed to have a separate area to learn to concentrate and speech therapy. He got none of that."

Now, she said Robert is doing well in school and she hoped he would go on to college.

Mr Walker helps and supports parents of adults with autism and a major part of his work is finding them the right support in health and social care because they often do not fit eligibility criteria, as autism is not a learning disability or mental health problem.

Mrs Green worried where her family would turn for support if his position was lost because as soon a people with autism leave school or college they are treated as adults.

Families get phone or in person support through diagnosis, help with behaviour, help accessing benefits, education and further education and help with the transition from school to adult life.

KCC has recently carried out a select committee report on autistic adults, which found there were already gaps in the services provided.

A spokesman for the authority said: "Last month, KCC organised an event for voluntary and community organisations in Kent that looked at the challenges KAT and others are tackling. KCC does buy services from the trust and we are, of course, happy to talk to them as we are always happy to talk with organisations providing services in Kent."

Investment

Medway Council said it had been contacted by KAT and was looking into the situation.

A report by the National Audit Office published on Friday found that most local authorities and NHS organisations did not know how many people with autism live in their area and "lacked understanding" of the condition.

The watchdog said increased investment in specialist services for people with autism could lead to savings in the long term.

Hole in one for charity

THE county's favourite comedian Dave Lee is bringing back his popular celebrity charity golf tournament.

It will help raise funds for Happy Holidays, his organisation that runs holidays for disabled, sick and underprivileged children of Kent and their immediate families.

It has raised more than £1.8 million so far, and the work continues.

The Dave Lee Celebrity Golf Classic has been a major success in the past, and it is being relaunched, with backing from KOS Media, at the renowned London Golf Club in Ash.

Lee said: "Heath Harvey the general manager of the London Club phoned me up out of the blue and asked why we weren't holding the golf day anymore.

"I told him although Broome Park were wonderful hosts, they struggled with the crowds of spectators and we hadn't found another club in Kent able to host such a big day.

"I nearly fell off my chair when Heath offered us the use of the world famous London Club."

It is the home to the European Open, a major event on the men's European Tour, and venue for a recent Pro Am match that saw Formula One champion Lewis Hamilton take to a course slightly slower than the ones he is used to.

Mr Harvey said: "We are famous for hosting major golf events but not a lot of people know we do fundraising as well. I was thinking we should raise funds for a more local charity and the fact I had been involved with Dave's charity golf day in the past, made the call to Dave easy.

ABOVE PAR: Dave Lee, centre, is holding his charity golf day at the London Golf Club (inset). The event is being supported by KOS Media, represented by MD Paul Stannard, left, and Richard Purvis, right

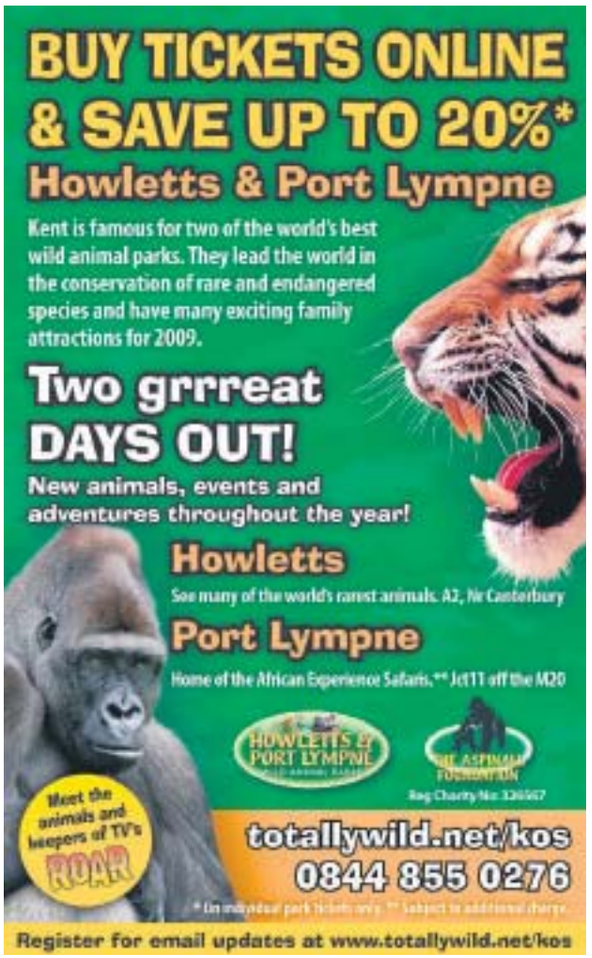
"I can still remember the incredible amount of spectators who came along to watch the celebrities and the hilarious cabaret dinner in the evening which became legendry."

The Happy Holidays charity has been running for nearly 15 years and has sent an incredible 40,000 people on holiday. All money received goes straight to the beneficiaries as no-one in the charity is paid, they said.

The event, on Sunday, October 4, is the biggest fundraiser for the charity and has seen hundreds of celebrities play including Jim Davidson, Bradley Walsh, Jimmy Tarbuck, Steve Davis, Glenn Hoddle, Shane Ritchie, Rick Wakeman and Harry Redknapp.

Anyone wanting to enter a three-strong team at £1,000 will be allocated a celebrity on the day. Phone the charity chairman Kevin Aylward on 01732 456 505 for details.

Spectators are welcome with adult tickets costing £5 and children under 16 are free. For more details see happyholidays.moonfruit.com.



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ELECTION SPECIAL: JUNE 4, 2009 Tories tighten their grip on Kent

Picture: PHIL HOUGHTON

BALLOT BOX: The election count brought joy for the Tories and pain for Labour

Disillusioned voters drive Labour out of the county

By STEVE KNIGHT
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

AN EMBARRASSING collapse of the Labour vote has made an already-powerful Tory administration even stronger at Kent County Council.

Of the 84 seats up for grabs at Thursday's elections, the Tories won an incredible 74 to tighten their grip on the authority, while Labour councillors lost all but two of the 20 seats they previously held.

Even more embarrassing for the party is that its remaining members now have about as much say in the running of the council as the Swanscombe and Greenhithe Residents Association, which claimed the most votes in its ward and earned a place on the council.

Before Thursday the Tories held 56 seats, Labour 20, the Lib Dems six and there was one independent. The new make-up is 74 for the Tories, two Labour, seven Lib Dems and one Swanscombe and Greenhithe Residents Association.

Labour's collapse at the polls was replicated throughout the country as those angry about the ongoing MPs' expenses scandal and the Labour Government let their feelings be known at a local level.

The Labour-run councils of Staffordshire, Lancashire and Derbyshire were all taken by the Tories on Friday, while further bad news is expected for the party when the European election results are announced this evening.

Former Kent Labour leader Dr Mike Eddy suffered one of the most humiliating defeats of the day, receiving the least votes of any of the six candidates vying for Deal's two seats.

The results came just hours after Prime Minister Gordon Brown was forced to reshuffle his Cabinet following several ministerial resignations, but Dr Eddy said he still believed his party was the right one to lead the country.

He said: "The general view among people is that it must be Labour's fault so we will go and vote for someone else.

"There's a degree of annoyance towards one or two prima donnas, but Gordon Brown is without doubt the best person to lead us through the current global economic crisis."

Aside from the remarkable success of the Swanscombe and Greenhithe Residents Association, Thursday was also a day for other smaller parties to enjoy some small success.

While none managed to win seats, members of the English Democrats, the UK Independence Party and the Green Party received more votes than their Labour counterparts in several areas throughout the county.

The far-right British Nationalist Party also sent out a warning that it may be on the rise, as in Sheerness its representative Graeme Sergeant came third with 539 votes and a large 14.22 per cent swing.

Despite these minor successes, the destruction of the Labour Party has left many worried the Conservatives now have no real opposition to answer to.

Leader Cllr Paul Carter admitted: "We've got to redesign how we operate now because we will have a totally Conservative dominance on the member bench."

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as opposition parties consigned to the margins

ASHFORD CENTRAL		
TWEED, Elizabeth	Conservative	Tory hold
ASHFORD EAST		
KOOWAREE, George	Liberal Democrat	Lib Dem hold
ASHFORD RURAL EAST		
WICKHAM, Andrew	Conservative	Tory hold
ASHFORD RURAL SOUTH		
ANGELL, Michael	Conservative	Tory hold
ASHFORD RURAL WEST		
KING, Richard	Conservative	Tory hold
ASHFORD SOUTH		
WEDGBURY, Jim	Conservative	Labour loss
BIRCHINGTON AND VILLAGES		
HIBBERD, Charles	Conservative	Tory hold
BROADSTAIRS AND SIR MOSES MONTEFIORE		
BAYFORD, Robert	Conservative	Tory hold
HAYTON, Bill	Conservative	Tory hold
CANTERBURY CITY NORTH EAST		
GIBBENS, Kenneth	Conservative	Tory hold
CANTERBURY CITY SOUTH WEST		
VYE, Martin	Liberal Democrat	Lib Dem hold
CANTERBURY SOUTH EAST		
NORTHEY, Michael	Conservative	Tory hold
CANTERBURY WEST		
SIMMONDS, John	Conservative	Tory hold
CRANBROOK		
MANNING, Roger	Conservative	Tory hold
DARENT VALLEY		
GOUGH, Roger	Conservative	Tory hold
DARTFORD EAST		
COLE, Penny	Conservative	Labour loss
DARTFORD NORTH EAST		
SANDHU, Av	Conservative	Labour loss
DARTFORD RURAL		
KITE, Jeremy	Conservative	Tory hold
DARTFORD WEST		
OZOG, Jan	Conservative	Labour loss
DEAL		
ROOK, Julie	Conservative	Labour loss
SMITH, Kit	Conservative	Labour loss
DOVER NORTH		
MANION, Steve	Conservative	Labour loss
DOVER TOWN		
COLLOR, Nigel	Conservative	Labour loss
FRAYNE, Roger	Conservative	Labour loss
DOVER WEST		
COPE, Bryan	Conservative	Tory hold
ELHAM VALLEY		
CAREY, Susan	Conservative	Tory hold
FAVERSHAM		
GATES, Tom	Conservative	Tory hold
FOLKESTONE NORTH EAST		
PASCOE, Dick	Conservative	Tory hold
FOLKESTONE SOUTH		
TOLPUTT, Roland	Conservative	Tory hold
FOLKESTONE WEST		
PRATER, Tim	Liberal Democrat	Tory loss
GRAVESHAM EAST		
CUBITT, John	Conservative	Labour loss
SWEETLAND, Bryan	Conservative	Labour loss
GRAVESHAM RURAL		
SNELLING, Michael	Conservative	Tory hold
HERNE AND STURRY		
MARSH, Robert	Conservative	Tory hold
HERNE BAY		
LAW, Jean	Conservative	Tory hold
HIRST, David	Conservative	Tory hold
HYTHE		
CAPON Christopher	Conservative	Tory hold
MAIDSTONE CENTRAL		
DALEY, Dan	Liberal Democrat	Lib Dem hold
ROBERTSON, Malcolm	Liberal Democrat	Tory loss
MAIDSTONE NORTH EAST		
CHITTENDEN, Ian	Liberal Democrat	Lib Dem hold
MAIDSTONE RURAL EAST		
WHITTLE, Jenny	Conservative	Tory hold
MAIDSTONE RURAL NORTH		
CARTER, Paul	Conservative	Tory hold
MAIDSTONE RURAL SOUTH		
HOTSON Eric	Conservative	Tory hold
MAIDSTONE RURAL WEST		
STOCKELL, Paulina	Conservative	Tory hold
MAIDSTONE SOUTH		
CHELL, Alan	Conservative	Tory hold
MAIDSTONE SOUTH EAST		
COOKE, Gary	Conservative	Labour loss
MALLING CENTRAL		
DEAN, Trudy	Liberal Democrat	Lib Dem hold
MALLING NORTH		
HOHLER, Sarah	Conservative	Tory hold
MALLING RURAL EAST		
LONG Richard	Conservative	Tory hold
MALLING RURAL NORTH EAST		
HOMEWOOD, Peter	Conservative	Lib Dem loss
MALLING WEST		
DAGGER Valerie	Conservative	Tory hold
MARGATE AND CLIFTONVILLE		
WELLS Chris	Conservative	Tory hold
JARVIS, Michael	Conservative	Labour loss
MARGATE WEST		
BURGESS, Robert	Conservative	Tory hold
NORTHFLEET AND GRAVESEND WEST		
CHRISTIE, Leslie	Labour	Labour hold
CRASKE, Harold	Conservative	Labour loss
RAMSGATE		
KIRBY John	Conservative	Labour loss
GREEN, Elizabeth	Labour	Labour hold
ROMNEY MARSH		
RICHARDSON, Willie	Conservative	Tory hold
SANDWICH		
RIDINGS Leyland	Conservative	Tory hold
SEVENOAKS CENTRAL		
LONDON, John	Conservative	Tory hold
SEVENOAKS EAST		
CHARD Nick	Conservative	Tory hold
SEVENOAKS NORTH EAST		
BRAZIER, David	Conservative	Tory hold
SEVENOAKS SOUTH		
LAKE, Peter	Conservative	Tory hold
SEVENOAKS WEST		
PARRY Richard	Conservative	Tory hold
SHEERNESS		
PUGH, Ken	Conservative	Labour loss
SHEPPEY		
CROWTHER, Adrian	Conservative	Tory hold
SWALE CENTRAL		
WHITING, Mike	Conservative	Tory hold
WILLICOMBE, Alan	Conservative	Labour loss
SWALE EAST		
BOWLES, Andrew	Conservative	Tory hold
SWALE WEST		
FERRIN, Keith	Conservative	Tory hold
SWANLEY		
BROOKBANK Robert	Conservative	Labour loss
SWANSCOMBE AND GREENHITHE		
LEES, Richard Swans&Green residents assoc		Labour loss
TENTERDEN		
HILL, Mike	Conservative	Tory hold
TONBRIDGE		
HORNE, Godfrey	Conservative	Tory hold
SMITH, Christopher	Conservative	Tory hold
TUNBRIDGE WELLS EAST		
LYNES Kevin	Conservative	Tory hold
TUNBRIDGE WELLS NORTH		
BULLOCK, Roy	Conservative	Tory hold
TUNBRIDGE WELLS RURAL		
KING Alex	Conservative	Tory hold
TUNBRIDGE WELLS SOUTH		
SCHOLES, James	Conservative	Tory hold
TUNBRIDGE WELLS WEST		
DAVIES John	Conservative	Tory hold
WHITSTABLE		
DANCE, Mark	Conservative	Tory hold
HARRISON, Michael	Conservative	Tory hold
WILMINGTON		
ALLEN, Ann	Conservative	Tory hold

Euro results due tonight

RESULTS from the European Election are set to be revealed this evening.

Kent is in the South East European region, which also covers Sussex, Surrey, Hampshire, the Isle of White, Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire.

As voters headed to the polls on Thursday to take part in the biggest trans-national election in history, 133 candidates in the South East have been battling it out for only 10 seats.

The UK Independence Party created controversy on election day after threatening a legal challenge over the results because they claimed a fold in the ballot paper made their candidates disappear.

Voters told KOS Media's website kentnews.co.uk that the list of candidates meant the paper had been folded at the bottom. UKIP was at the foot of the alphabetical list.

The first results from the European election are expected today at 8pm.

All the main parties, Labour, the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats, were represented in the South East, along with the Green Party and UKIP. Other groups such as No2EU, Yes to Democracy, The Peace Party, United Kingdom First and The Jury Team were also taking part.

Commentators predicted smaller parties such as the Greens would perform well due to the MPs' expenses scandal. And with Labour in turmoil after a week of high-profile resignations, the party was also expected to lose MEPs.

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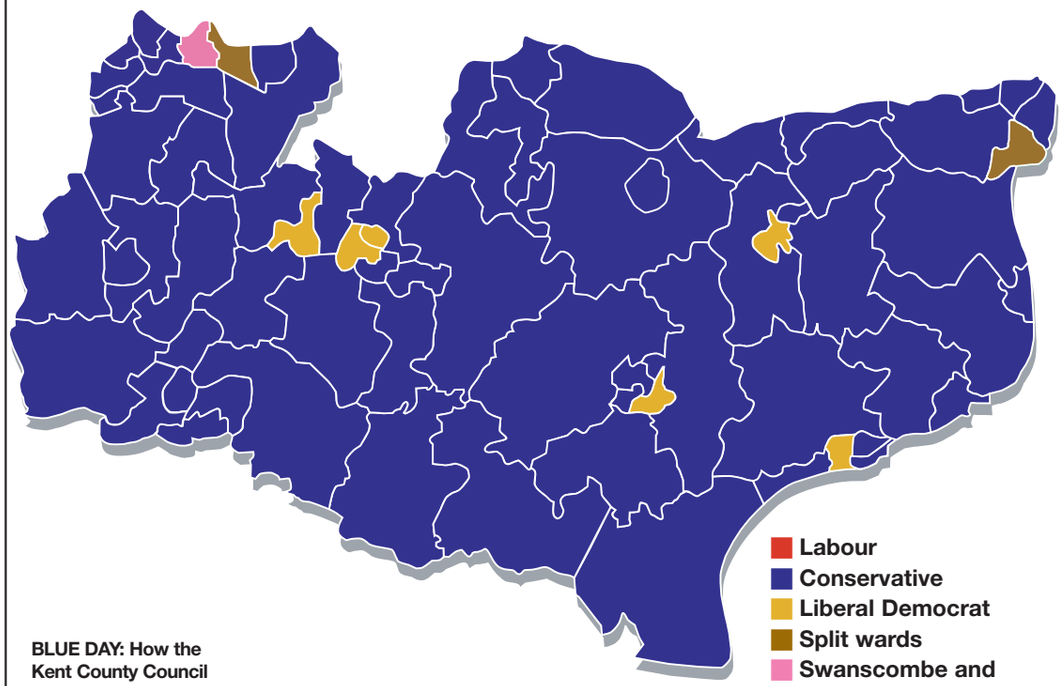
ELECTION SPECIAL: JUNE 4, 2009

Party leaders give their views on

County's political map



BLUE DAY: How the Kent County Council area stood after Friday's election count

Lib Dems will do 'reasonable job'

LIB Dem leader Cllr Trudy Dean admits her party faces a difficult task in holding the Conservatives to account.

Despite winning just one extra seat in Thursday's election, the Lib Dems have found themselves as the new main opposition in County Hall following Labour's embarrassing collapse at the polls.

But despite heading a team of just seven councillors against a far larger group of 74 Conservatives, Cllr Dean said she was confident of doing a "reasonably good job".

She said: "I don't see why we can't carry the arguments of the people of Kent into County Hall. It's going to be a hard task but all of us will work hard to ensure we do that.

"It's important to keep in good contact with people and providing we do that I think we will do a reasonable job."

After seeing his party retain just two of the 20 seats it held, outgoing Labour leader Dr Mike Eddy described the Lib Dems as the "compliant party" and said they were not well-equipped to hold the Tories to account.

POORLY EQUIPPED?: Cllr Trudy Dean's party are now the main opposition in Kent

However, Cllr Dean disagreed.

She said: "I don't think that's right and you only have to look at what we've achieved over the past four or five years to see that. We've chosen the issues that are important to the people of Kent and we always try to get the best outcome.

"We do not oppose the Tories for the sake of opposition and I don't think the voters will live to regret their decisions.

"We have witnessed a total collapse of the Labour vote, and I think it's almost entirely aimed against the party at government level."

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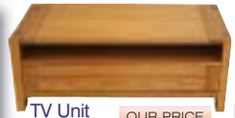
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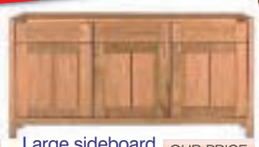
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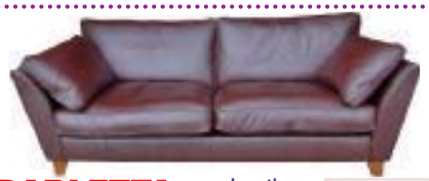
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the crushing victory that strengthens the Conservatives' stranglehold on County Hall

Great day for democracy, says Carter

THE Conservative Party in Kent is celebrating a sweeping victory in the county elections.

Cllr Paul Carter, Kent County Council's leader, was "ecstatic" after a day that saw the Tories gain 19 seats, as the beleaguered Labour Party lost 18 councillors.

As wards completed their counts on Friday, the Tories watched in joy as 74 out of the council's 84 seats turned blue.

"I'm absolutely ecstatic, the hard work is over and we've got a fantastic result for the Conservatives in Kent," Cllr Carter told Kent on Sunday.

Before Thursday's vote he said he wanted to improve on the 57 seats the party held.

"I think you've got what's going on national politics and what we are doing locally at county level and that acted together and has given us a very strong mandate to govern," he said.

"We ran the election on our track record of improving services and endeavoured to continue in that direction of travel and make further efficiencies savings and improvements for the 1.3 million people in Kent."

Cllr Carter said the Tory result in Kent meant one thing for Prime Minister Gordon Brown. He said: "In my view it sends a clear message from the electorate telling the Labour Government that they want an election and they want them out.

"So come on let's have an election."

Despite fears the MPs' expenses scandal and wrangling in Westminster would mean that voters would not show up at the polls for Thursday's election, there was a turnout of more than 40 per cent in some of the county's wards.

"I think it is a great day for democracy," Cllr Carter said. "The sceptics said we would not get more than 25 per cent turnout and in my division in the Maidstone we had over 40 per cent turnout which is a very, very good result."

Now that Labour has been all but wiped out of county politics, the Tory leader said that the party would have to "redesign" how they operated due to the Conservative dominance on the member bench.

Asked if he would be doing a cabinet reshuffle, he said: "I shall reflect on that over the weekend, so watch this space on Monday and Tuesday next week."

Cllr Carter was aware that infighting and high-profile resignations in central Government had not helped the Kent Labour Party's case.

He said: "The Labour Government is in total disarray and locally they never came up with any strong alternatives. They never really had anything constructive to tell people."

He said the hard work would begin again on Monday and the party would make good its election promises of improving services including highways, education and adult social services.

ECSTATIC: Election victory sends strong message to the Government says KCC leader, Paul Carter

Labour leader says voters will regret decisions

DEFEATED Labour leader Dr Mike Eddy says he believes the slaughter of his party at the polls is an "absolute disaster" for Kent.

Labour lost all but two of the 20 seats its members previously held, meaning the Conservative Party has more power in the county than ever before.

And Dr Eddy – who finished bottom of the pile in his own ward of Deal – said he felt the people of Kent would live to regret their anti-Labour stance.

He said: "There will be absolutely no scrutiny and no challenge to what the Tories want to do at County Hall.

"Nobody will be there to hold them to account and that's what's most depressing.

"The people of Kent will come to regret the way they have voted very quickly and I think it's going to be an absolute disaster.

Constructive

"The Lib Dems have taken votes from us, and whenever that happens it's the Tories that benefit.

"The Lib Dems put themselves across as the constructive party but they are actually the compliant party and will do very little to hold the Tories to account.

"The one silver lining is that the Conservative group that all voted like sheep in the past will now become fractured because it is so big and there will not be enough jobs and special roles to keep everyone happy."

Dr Eddy admitted he did not anticipate his group doing quite so badly at the polls, but said he was expecting a battle due to the ongoing MPs' expenses scandal.

He said: "The general view among people is that it must be Labour's fault so we will go and vote for someone else.

DEPRESSING: Labour leader Cllr Mike Eddy's party faces four years watching from the sidelines

"There's a degree of annoyance towards one or two prima donnas, but Gordon Brown is without doubt the best person to lead us through the current global economic crisis.

"My colleagues and I who have lost our seats have agreed that the fight-back starts now.

"We will be going back to our divisions and our district council wards and we will start talking to people again.

"It certainly was a full-time job holding the Tories to account.

"The voters have obviously decided they don't want them to be held to account or perhaps didn't understand that they were being."

High-speed service – for richer, not poorer

By JENNA PUDELEK
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

PREMIUM prices on the new high-speed trains could create a two-tiered rail service in Kent, a passenger watchdog has warned.

Tunde Olatunji, Passenger Focus manager for Kent, welcomed rail operator Southeastern's announcement that a 'preview service' would run on High Speed 1 from the end of the month.

But he raised concerns that high fare costs, which are a third more than current tickets, would price passengers out of using the service.

"The increase, which may well be worth it for some people because some of the time savings, are quite dramatic," Mr Olatunji said.

"We must not lose sight of that fact, but if we wanted all the people currently travelling from Ashford, Dover and Canterbury to move onto high speed, I think it is a tall order to think everyone will be able to do that."

He said to upgrade a season ticket will cost more than an extra £1,000 when the full service is launched in December.

Under the new preview fares, a weekly season ticket from Ashford to St Pancras has increased 20 per cent from £94.50 to £113.40.

A peak return from Ebbsfleet in north Kent has gone up 35 per cent to £24.30.

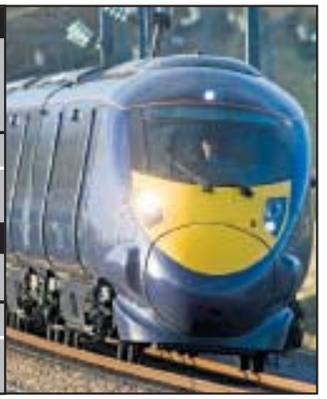
"For some that won't be an issue, but down through the scale… it is quite a big financial commitment.

Ebbsfleet International to St Pancras International preview fares

	Peak single	Peak return	Off-Peak return	Weekly season
Mainline (From Gravesend)	£9.10	£18.00	£9.30	£61.00
High Speed	£12.20	£24.30	£12.50	£82.30
Supplement for existing ticket holders	£3.10	£6.20	£3.20	£21.30

Ashford International to St Pancras International preview fares

Mainline	£22.20	£40.60	£20.80	£94.50
High Speed	£26.60	£48.70	N/A	£113.40
Supplement for existing ticket holders	£4.40	£8.10	N/A	£18.90



"A two-tiered service is a good way to describe it," he said.

From June 29 a preview high-speed commuter service will run between Ashford International, Ebbsfleet International and St Pancras International from Monday to Friday.

Charles Horton, Southeastern's managing director, said the fares announced were for the preview service only.

He said: "We feel they offer value for money for passengers who will now be able to get to London in 37 minutes, and just 17 minutes from Ebbsfleet."

A spokesman for the operator said that fare prices for the full service would be announced next month.

Southeastern said the preview service would offer passengers the chance to experience the country's first 140mph high-speed trains and allow the operator to continue testing and training, and ensure the full introduction of the service runs smoothly.

The spokesman said that over the summer promotional schemes would be run to allow other people to experience the service.

Mr Olatunji said: "The main thing is that it is starting early, which is a significant opportunity for passengers in Kent to experience the service much earlier than they would have done."

Discounts

Talking about the fare prices, he said: "Premium fare levels were set many years ago and in completely different economic times. We would hope Southeastern would consider offering incentives and discounts to make the service more affordable.

"Ultimately, passengers now have a choice of a much faster service, but at a higher price. Passengers will use Southeastern's high-speed service if they believe it offers value for money."

He added: "The whole of Kent should feel proud that we have got high-speed travel.

"The bigger picture is that there is a high-speed debate across the country about whether we should expand high speed.

"The success of the new service will be watched very closely by others wanting to learn, about the costs of what it has taken to build the service, getting it up and running and encouraging people to use it.

"High Speed 1 will only be expanded if people want to use it and can afford to use it."

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Royal seal of approval for two outstanding volunteer groups

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

A village tour and children's charity given Queen's award

A CHILDREN'S charity and a group that organises guided village walks are among those to have received the 'volunteering MBE'.

Both 121 Youth Befriending – which supports excluded and isolated youngsters throughout west Kent – and St Peter's Village Tour, Broadstairs, rely heavily on unpaid workers and are the latest recipients of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

They were among just 17 organisations in the South East to receive the honour, after being whittled down from a list of more than 400 nominated throughout the country.

The award is the second in seven months for St Peter's Village Tour, which late last year was highly commended in Virgin Holidays' search for the world's most responsible tourist destination – finishing behind only New Zealand.

Dedicated

Chairman Brian Sleightholm said: "To be recognised by the Queen is absolutely brilliant, no doubt about it.

"When we started 15 years ago we thought it would only last for a few months before petering out, but that hasn't happened.

"It's now a very popular tourist attraction. We have 110 volunteers in the team and it means an awful lot to them because they've all worked very hard to make this work.

"We show visitors around the village and on the way we stop and talk to 12 costumed characters from the past, which people seem to be very interested in.

"It's made for a successful operation."

Sevenoaks-based 121 Youth Befriending offers a support service to vulnerable young people between the ages of six and 16, who may be living on the fringes of society or come from families on low income and in areas of social deprivation.

Development manager Lin Ramsey said: "We are just hugely honoured and thrilled to receive this award and are so thankful for whoever it was that nominated us for it.

"This is recognition for our extremely dedicated volunteers, without whom we could not support the young people in our community."

Both Kent groups will receive a certificate signed by the Queen as well as a commemorative crystal. The presentation will be made by her representative in the county, the Lord Lieutenant Allan Willett, in the summer.

This week marks the 25th anniversary of Volunteers' Week, which highlights the duties performed by unpaid workers and encourages others to do the same.

Visit www.volunteersweek.org.uk for more information.

ACKNOWLEDGED: 121 Youth Befriending charity and the St Peter's Village Tour will get awards

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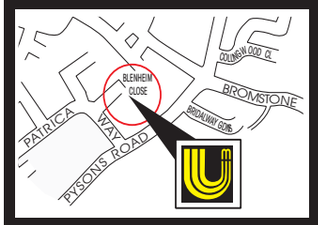

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Controversial union leader dies aged 79

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

KENT-BORN union 'rebel' Eric Hammond has died aged 79.

He passed away last Saturday after a long and controversial career in the worlds of national and local politics.

He was born in a two-up, two-down terraced house in Gravesend the son of a paper-mill worker and went on to help smash the grip the unions had on Britain during the 1980s.

Mr Hammond was known nationally for his controversial union career, but also in Kent for his backing of grammar schools.

As a child he attended St Botolph's Primary School in Northfleet and in later life he was the chairman of the Support Kent Schools campaign.

He was also chairman of governors at Gravesend Grammar School for Boys until two years ago when he stepped down, but remained a "very active member", said head-teacher Geoff Wybar.

The lifelong member of the Labour Party fought against moves to effectively ban the grammar school system.

He once said: "Grammar schools ballots offer a significant threat to the future of secondary education in Kent and it is not just the grammars that are at risk.

"If these ballots are lost, all secondary schools will have to reorganise. This will be painful as there will not be any government money to fund the process.

"Children's education will suffer. The Government has said that parents will make the decision. We welcome this, but need to mobilise and inform parents of the dangers."

His passion for the grammar system stemmed from him passing his 11-plus, but then failing to pass the required oral test for admission to Gravesend Grammar.

Humorous

Mr Wybar said: "The death of Eric Hammond has been felt very deeply by all associated with Gravesend Grammar School.

"Eric's direct association with the school goes back 20 years and he made an outstanding contribution both as a governor and chair of governors. He regularly attended sporting, fundraising, musical and dramatic events in support of the students taking part.

"He was also able to use his experience of years in the trade union movement to link us with major national companies at a time when we looking for sponsors for our specialist status.

"It was typical of Eric that, on his retirement, he chose to give his expertise to organisations within the community of Gravesend rather than take things easy.

"He was not only a supporter of Gravesend Grammar School, but also of other selective schools and education in Kent in general through his involvement with Support Kent Schools.

"His inspiration and wise counsel are irreplaceable and he will be sorely missed both as a warm and humorous person as well as a leader with vision and integrity."

In 1986, he famously did a deal with media mogul Rupert Murdoch for his members of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union to set up new advanced presses and then operate them at the News International Wapping site in London.

TAKE NO NONSENSE: Eric Hammond

The publisher of The Sun, The Times and the News of the World was one of the first to leave the Fleet Street area.

Many sections of the union movement never forgave him and he was also criticised for smoozing with Margaret Thatcher and her trade secretary Norman Tebbit.

The minister had visited the union's base in Kent several times.

Months of disruption followed the Wapping move with workers having to be bussed in under police escort, but eventually the protesters ebbed away and a historic moment in union history arrived.

Eric Hammond wanted to reform British trade union culture and in 1989, became the first trade union leader to serve within the CBI.

World War Two meant he was evacuated to Newfoundland, Canada, during the blitz in 1940, aged 10, but on his return in 1945, he started an apprenticeship as an electrician at Bowaters, the newsprint company his father worked for.

He later became a shop steward aged 23 for the Electrical Trades Union, then in the grip of hardline communists.

At that time, he was working on the Isle of Grain power station construction and was on the union's national executive by 1963. He was also a Gravesend councillor between 1959-1962.

In 1980, in scenes that were to be familiar for him, Hammond took his members through picket lines at a laggers' strike on Grain.

The Sun dubbed him 'Hambo' after movie hero Rambo when he was pictured holding a lump of flint hurled at a bus window cutting a foreman's head.

He became embroiled in bitter conflicts with the TUC, including once criticising Arthur Scargill's handling of the 1984-85 miners' strike.

Mr Hammond was so determined to bring peace between unions and employers that he struck a number of no-strike deals, which again upset some in other unions.

Eventually, his 365,000-strong union was expelled from the TUC in 1988 and it merged with the engineering union to form the AEEU, once the largest manufacturing union in Britain.

Mr Hammond retired in 1992, aged 63, and the AEEU was once more welcome at the TUC. More amalgamations saw it come Amicus in 2001, and Unite in 2007.

He also served on the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and was a member of the Employment Appeals Tribunal.

He married his wife Brenda in 1953 and they had two sons Shaun and Ivan. He was made an OBE in 1977.

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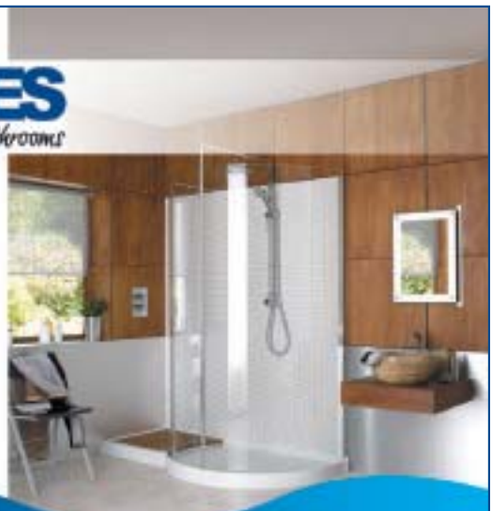

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Homeless and foster charities help vulnerable in time of need

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

TWO charities that help society's most vulnerable people rebuild their lives have been shortlisted in KOS Media's largest competition ever.

Porchlight and The Caldecott Foundation are among the organisations that stand to win a share of more than £1 million worth of advertising, marketing and PR in the Kent Business Challenge.

Caldecott, based in Smeeth near Ashford, is a charity that cares for around 50 children aged five-16, who have suffered neglect and trauma.

Valuable

Its chief executive Clive Lee said: "Winning a slice of the Kent Business Challenge marketing budget would be particularly valuable to us, as marketing and media support would help us find foster carers to provide caring, stable homes for some of our children."

Children at Caldecott stay from a few months to up to three years in its residential home. There is an on-site school and therapy centre.

But the aim is to find the young people a stable family home. Mr Lee said: "In response to increasing enquiries from local authorities, Caldecott launched a fostering service last year, and there is a real need for Kent foster carers to look after some of society's most vulnerable children.

"Caldecott receives minimal direct funding from the government. Revenue comes from local authorities funding the placement of children, plus some grant income, so the Foundation has its own small fundraising department."

The business challenge was launched in November last year in response to the global economic slowdown and is the highest prize fund ever offered in the county.

In May, the award-winning publisher announced that out of more than 300 entries, 80 hopefuls have now been short-listed for the 10 awards.

Among those is Porchlight, which is based in Canterbury, and works with more than 1,000 people across Kent who are sleeping rough or at risk of becoming homeless.

Spokesman Mark Parry said: "The use of the marketing and a share of the prize would be amazing. We want to raise public awareness, which is part of our mission to change attitudes and change lives.

"We help rebuild communities, work with people who have been socially excluded and make them included.

"On top of that we need to reach out to people who might need our services. So, it is a double-pronged approach to raise awareness."

- ***Porchlight's helpline is 0800 567 7699 and more information about the charity can be found at www.porchlight.org.uk.***
- ***For more information about The Caldecott Foundation go to www.caldecottfoundation.co.uk.***

SUPPORT: Porchlight works with more than 1,000 people across Kent sleeping rough or at risk of becoming homeless

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FALSE ALARM: Pilot of VariEze like the one pictured was thought to be lost over north Kent

Missing pilot found safe and well in Switzerland

THE search for a light plane that vanished over Kent ended when the embarrassed pilot called rescuers from Switzerland.

The aircraft left an airfield in Cambridge heading for Lydd 100 miles away, but never arrived.

Rescuers were baffled as to what happened to the civilian homemade VariEze aircraft and feared it may have crashed in a remote location.

A search and rescue operation was immediately launched when the alarm was raised on Wednesday night.

A Sea King helicopter was scrambled from RAF Wattisham Airfield in Suffolk, to scour the coastline from Kent to as far north as Essex.

All contact was lost at 11am as the plane passed over the River Medway estuary at Sheerness.

The operation was being co-ordinated by Aeronautical Rescue Co-ordination Centre at RAF Kinloss.

A spokesman there said: "The pilot had no idea of the trouble he caused.

"I spoke to him on the phone, and he told me he was flying over Southend still heading for Lydd when he spotted poor weather.

"He always intended to go to Switzerland but was going to refuel at Lydd. Instead with the weather front approaching from behind, he simply hung a left and went straight to Switzerland.

"He should have notified the authorities, but he misunderstood the rules that govern these things, and just didn't bother.

"There was a radio on board the plane, but he didn't think he had to tell anyone."

The pilot admitted he was embarrassed and apologised for all the worrying and cost of the un-needed rescue operation.

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Red alert – kites flying in to Kent

A BIRD of prey rarely seen in Kent has been spotted soaring above two of our nature reserves, ***writes Steve Knight***.

RSPB experts believe the majestic red kite – unmistakable with its reddish-brown body, angled wings and forked tail – may have been carried over from mainland Europe by strong winds.

The bird has been sighted above reserves at Elmley, on the Isle of Sheppey, and at Seasalter, near Whitstable.

Warden Gordon Allison said: "Red kites are beautiful to watch, soaring gracefully overhead. The sightings have caused quite a stir. It seems likely this bird was just paying us a visit, but I suspect it will only be a matter of time before Kent has its first breeding pairs of red kites."

Also known by its Latin name milvus milvus, the red kite belongs to the same family as hawks, vultures and eagles and is known to feed on worms, small mammals and carrion.

The species was threatened with extinction at the turn of the 20th century, with habitat damage and food shortages continuing to threaten populations throughout Europe.

However, due to successful reintroduction programmes co-ordinated by the RSPB and Natural England there are now more than 1,350 breeding pairs in Britain.

But birds of prey are not the only new visitors to the county. Last week our sister paper Kent on Saturday reported thousands of painted lady butterflies have been seen in the county after being blown in from north Africa. The distinctive insects, which have orange, black and white wings, originate from the Atlas mountains of Morocco and are being tracked by the Butterfly Conservation charity. In a space of 45 minutes, conservationists counted nearly 3,000 at one location in Kent. Spokesman Richard Fox asked for the public's help in monitoring their movements by recording any sightings at www.butterfly-conservation.org/migrantwatch.

He said: "There are millions of painted lady butterflies arriving across Britain. This is a spectacular phenomenon."

Meanwhile, the Kent Wildlife Trust is now accepting entries for its 2009 Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition.

Professional and amateur snappers are invited to send up to three pictures per category, which are fauna, flora, landscape and coastline and people. There is also a junior category for those aged 17 and under.

Visit www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk for more information, or call 01622 662012.

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Emphysema cyclist Jean is coasting

AN ARTIST whose illness leaves her breathless after only light exercise is taking part in a 100-mile bike ride.

Jean Fraser, from Whitstable, suffers from the lung disease emphysema but hopes her journey from Hastings to the Isle of Wight will inspire others with the same condition.

The four-week coastal cycle, which has so far raised £450 for the British Lung Foundation, forms part of Ms Fraser's Drawing Breath art project that began with a similar ride between Whitstable and Hastings in 2007.

Photographs of some of the sights along the route and people she meets will be posted on her website – www.drawingbreath.org – which also features a regularly updated blog.

Ms Fraser said: "I set off last Sunday and it's been fine so far. This ride is a bit different to my last because I don't know that many people who I can stay with on the way, so this time I've decided to camp.

"I was worried the weight of the tent would cause some difficulty, but thankfully it hasn't been an issue yet.

"Regular exercise definitely helps people with my condition. Cycling is good because you can have a rest when you go downhill, which people who go out walking obviously won't have."

Emphysema is a chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), which in 2005 killed 11,302 women – about 400 more than breast cancer. Ms Fraser was a state registered art therapist working at an NHS mental health centre when she was diagnosed with the condition in 2000.

She had given up smoking 15 years earlier but believes that may still have been the cause, although she had also worked on building projects in the past without wearing a dust mask.

JEAN FRASER: In the saddle once again

Ms Fraser said the decision to stay active after being told she had emphysema was an easy one.

She explained: "It's important for people with my illness to be breathless every day, because we have to work that extra bit harder with our exercise. But being so breathless puts a lot of people off.

"Many sufferers are told they need a lot of rest, but in my mind rest is a euphemism for waiting to die because if you don't exercise then your muscles will decondition."

Ms Fraser will be visiting a number of Breathe Easy support groups during her bike ride, and will also be stopping off at Eastbourne hospital on June 17 to construct a giant balloon sculpture of "community lungs" using the breath of patients, visitors and staff.

• ***Visit www.justgiving.com/jeanfraser to raise money for the British Lung Foundation during her journey.***

End of a glittering era

Cabaret star Danny dies of cancer, aged 81

By CHRIS MURPHY
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THE world's most famous female impersonator, Danny La Rue, died at his home in Tunbridge Wells this week.

The 81-year-old, originally from Cork, Ireland, carved an extraordinary career which lasted until a stroke halted his performances.

Noel Coward, who lived at St Margaret's Bay, once called him: "The most professional, the most witty... and the most utterly charming man in the business."

But La Rue, whose real name was Daniel Carroll, finally succumbed to prostate cancer last Sunday and died at his home with friend, dress designer Annie Galbraith, by his side.

His death was announced in a short statement from his spokeswoman, which said: "Danny died peacefully in his sleep just before midnight last night after a short illness.

"His beloved companion Annie Galbraith was with him at their home in Kent."

Sparkle

It was the end of a career that literally did sparkle, usually thanks to the layers of glittering clothes he wore on stage during his elaborate shows and appearances.

He appeared in six smash hits West End shows, plus he achieved international super-stardom with appearances in Canada and sellout tours of Australia and New Zealand.

His success came in television, films, concerts, cabaret, and just about everything in between.

La Rue first donned a wig and eyelashes in World War Two for a concert party, and from there he started the long slog from small theatres to international superstar.

A breakthrough was appearing at Winston's Club alongside Barbara Windsor.

He later opened his own London nightclub in 1964, attracting celebrities such as Judy Garland, Warren Beatty, Shirley MacLean, Dorothy Squires, Shirley Bassey, Coward, Zsa Zsa Gabor and Elizabeth Taylor.

Even Princess Margaret and Lord Snowdon would pop in.

Although many suspected he was gay, it wasn't until more recently that he was open about his sexuality, and revealed a relationship with his manager, Jack Hanson, who died following a stroke in 1974.

He was made an OBE in 2002 and kept performing until suffering a mild stroke early in 2006, after which all of his planned UK performances were cancelled.

He was first female impersonator to perform for the Queen at the Royal Variety Performance, and did some 30 shows for the Royals.

He once told The Stage magazine: "Sleazy impersonators get their laughs by having people laugh at women. I love laughter, glitter, and glamour.

"I suppose I must have been doing something right, otherwise I wouldn't have lasted."

THE KING OF DRAG: Star Danny La Rue

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Charges follow counterfeit raid

FOUR men have been arrested and three charged with possessing, producing and manufacturing counterfeit coins following a raid on a farm near the village of Tonge, just outside Sittingbourne.

The arrests were made after officers went to a building which forms part of Tonge Corner Farm.

The men are Michael Silk, 69, of Sanderling Way, Iwade; Stephen Silk, 48, of Orchard Cottages, Borden; and Paul Bart, 64, of Stanborough Avenue, in Boreham Wood, Hertfordshire.

They have been remanded in custody to appear at Sittingbourne Magistrates on Friday, June 12.

A 61-year-old Sheerness man has been bailed until July 2, pending further inquiries.

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UN call Kent man to halt disaster caused by rats

Scientist is pied piper of Bangladesh

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

AN explosion in the Bangladeshi rat population has presented a scientist with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to help save lives.

The last time the poverty-stricken Asian country experienced such a plague of rodents was when it was part of Pakistan in 1958, when millions of people died as a result of famine and the civil war that followed.

Concerns the nation is on the verge of a similar disaster have led to the United Nations seeking the help of Dr Steve Belmain, whose Natural Resources Institute (NRI) is based at the University of Greenwich's Medway campus.

Dr Belmain, who has been working on a range of research projects in Bangladesh since 2002, said the sudden flood of rats was caused by the flowering of a bamboo plant that takes 48 years to mature.

He explained: "The seeds these plants produce in the jungles are very nutritious and healthy and allow the rats to breed like crazy and produce litter after litter.

"Whereas they would normally be able to breed just once or twice if they are lucky, this unexpected change in their habitat increases their breeding season and allows them to have maybe four, five or six generations.

Survive

"But suddenly they eat all the seeds and become very hungry and that's when they move into the fields and eat all the crops.

"It leads to 100 per cent crop devastation and that makes the Bangladeshi people entirely dependent on food relief.

"So far there has been some, but not nearly enough. We're now just trying to understand this whole ecology, as it's such an infrequent problem and there is not much prior research for us to draw upon."

When the rat floods began last month, the UN Development Programme asked Dr Belmain to lead a team of 14 experts to collect information on the destructive phenomenon and provide recommendations on what should be done.

But while other Asian regions have learned the lessons from 1958, and pumped millions into a scheme to help those people affected by it, Dr Belmain said the Bangladeshi government was still in denial.

He said: "They knew the flood was coming, but they don't seem to believe it will cause any major problems and haven't really got their act together. They seem to have very little memory of what happened last time.

"There may well be occasions when people go to bed at night with their crops intact and wake up in the morning with it all gone. But because they are so desperate to survive, there could quite literally be hundreds of thousands of rats running around in the fields during the day."

GOOD DEED: Dr Belmain (above) is endeavouring to help solve the problem which could cause famine throughout the country. Below locals bag up tails taken from captured rats

Dr Belmain admitted he and his team were under pressure to come up with quick solutions to the problem.

He said: "As a scientist you want to be there to witness this phenomenon in person, but on the other hand you don't want it to happen because you know it will destroy people's livelihoods.

"We're under pressure to come up with these solutions and relay them back to the UN."

• *Visit www.nri.org for more information on the work of the Natural Resources Institute.*

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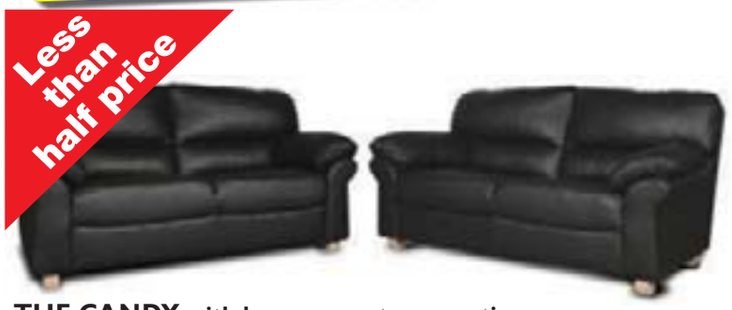

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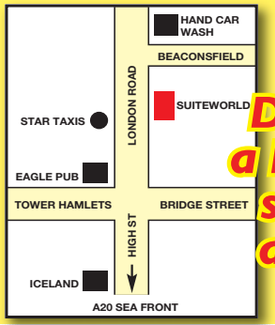

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NHS millions promised for single-sex hospital wards

By JENNA PUDELEK
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

PATIENTS across Kent and Medway are set to see an end to "distressing" mixed-sex hospital wards and bathrooms as part of a Government initiative.

The county's primary care trusts have received a £5.6 million share of the Department of Health's £100m fund for trusts to improve the privacy and dignity of patients.

Patients and healthcare campaigners have long been calling for an end to mixed-sex wards, and the Government pledged in both its 1997 and 2001 election manifestos to abolish them. Now, trusts must provide care in single-sex wards by 2010-11.

NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent has seen £3m of investment, which will benefit the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Faversham Cottage Hospital, the William Harvey in Ashford and the Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother in Margate.

PRIVACY: Respect and dignity are a key aim in the provision of single-sex wards

Ann Sutton, the PCT's chief executive, said: "People often feel at their most vulnerable when they are in hospital, and being cared for in mixed-sex accommodation can be distressing. We are committed to reducing mixed-sex accommodation to an absolute minimum and providing single-sex bays wherever possible.

"There will be some instances – emergencies for example – where urgent medical care must take precedence and the NHS will not turn a patient away just because a 'right-sex' bed is not immediately available."

NHS Medway has been given £1.8m of the fund, which will mainly be spent at Medway Maritime Hospital in Gillingham where work is set to begin over the next few months to convert many of its current wards into single-sex accommodation.

Patients will no longer have to pass members of the opposite sex when using showers and toilets as the facilities would be duplicated, the trust said.

"We believe every patient has the right to be treated in privacy, with the utmost respect and dignity", said Jacquie McKenna, director of nursing and strategy at the hospital.

"We are taking a two-pronged approach, so in addition to these building works we will also be training and educating our staff so they understand the importance of privacy and dignity and how they can promote and protect it."

She said that eventually major redevelopment works would see older wards replaced with single rooms and en-suite bathrooms.

NHS West Kent is using £800,000 of the funding for a series of initiatives, which involve upgrading Maidstone and Darent Valley hospitals to ensure mixed-sex accommodation and bathrooms are a thing of the past.

The new public finance initiative hospital at Pembury due to open in 2011 will have 100 per cent single rooms and en suite facilities.

Steve Phoenix, the PCT's chief executive, said: "It is vitally important that the NHS in west Kent treats patients with the proper privacy and dignity while they are in hospital.

"We want patients to have the best possible care in the best possible environment, and working with the Department of Health to put these improvements in place will help to deliver that environment."

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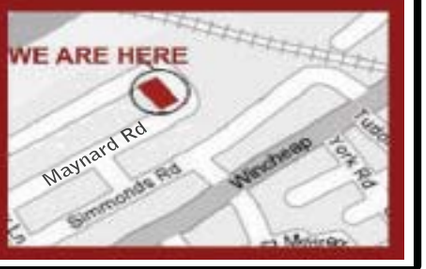

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Arrest in hunt for serial sex attacker

POLICE have arrested a man suspected of committing a number of sexual offences on trains and railway stations in north Kent.

The 32-year-old from Crayford in Bexley was detained at the town's station on Tuesday afternoon.

Det Con Andy Parkinson, of the British Transport Police's public protection unit, said the man was interviewed and released on bail until June 10 pending further investigations.

The arrest follows an appeal for information about a sexual offence committed on a train travelling between Northfleet and London Bridge, on March 31.

Conspiracy charges over drugs at prison

FOUR people appeared before Medway magistrates on Wednesday in connection with alleged drug offences at a prison on the Isle of Sheppey.

They are charged with conspiracy to supply drugs into HMP Elmley, and a second charge of conveying prohibited articles into the jail.

Kent Police arrested two men and two women on Tuesday, and properties in Grange Road, Ramsgate and Canterbury Road, Westgate-on-Sea, were searched.

One of those arrested was prison officer Darren Byrne, 29, who is based at Elmley.

Dino Gillet, 37, unemployed, of Canterbury Road, Westgate-on-Sea, was remanded in custody before the hearing.

Sahra Gillet, 35, unemployed, of Canterbury Road, Westgate-on-Sea, was bailed to appear before magistrates on Wednesday, as was Carly Morris, 24, from Dover, who was previously employed by SERCO, which supplies guards to prisons, but has now left her post.

Modern twist for tale of Kent Hooden Horse

By STEVE KNIGHT
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

THE authoritative book on a little-known Kent custom has been republished to mark a century since its original publication.

Only 303 copies of Percy Maylam's work on the hooden horse were ever printed, with Oxford University one of only a handful of places where it can still be picked up and read.

Wanting to honour his great uncle's wish that the peculiar tradition should not be allowed to die, Richard Maylam has created an updated version complete with new photographs and a biography of its original author.

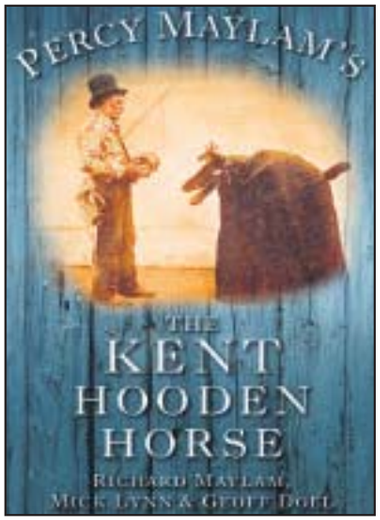
Mince pies

He said: "The hooden horse is a tradition that started hundreds of years ago.

"It involved a man dressing up as a horse and being led around to various homes where they would put on a little show in return for money, or mince pies and glasses of wine if it was Christmas time.

"There would usually be someone dressed up as a woman who would supposedly sweep up the horse's dung, and somebody else would play a tune on a squeeze box.

"In the old days the horse's teeth were made of boot nails, so it would make a tremendous cracking sound when its mouth closed.



FOLKLORE: Percy Maylam revisited his uncle's rare 100-year-old book to bring the tale of The Kent Hooden Horse up to date

"It's a very old tradition that happened mainly in east Kent, and my great uncle wrote about it back in 1909 because he feared that it might die out.

"People are becoming more interested in folklore and because it's difficult to get hold of his book these days, I thought it would be a good idea to get it reprinted."

The updated version of The Kent Hooden Horse was put together by Mr Maylam with help from Mick Lynn and Geoff Doel, both of whom still perform the custom today.

Mr Maylam said the tradition, which was usually carried out by farm workers at local landowners' houses, was one to be proud of.

He said: "Kent is the only part of the country that had this custom, and I think the only other two areas in the rest of the world are in Germany and Russia. It's very unusual and therefore very special too.

"I think traditions like this have died out over the years because modern life offers so many activities for us to enjoy, but it's important for us to remember where we have come from.

"The hooden horse was important to the people of Kent, and so it should remain now."

Also included in the re-release of the book is an essay written by Percy Maylam on the custom of Gavelkind – the equal division of land between a deceased owner's sons – and its relevance to Kent.

The Kent Hooden Horse is available through The History Press priced £12.99.

• ***Visit www.thehistorypress.co.uk for more information.***

Project gives young asylum seekers hope

A GROUP of vulnerable teenagers who come from some of the most dangerous and unstable countries in the world have taken a major step towards rebuilding their lives.

The seven young men aged between 17 and 18-years-old, who attend the Riverside Project in Canterbury, have become the first unaccompanied asylum seeking children in the UK to complete an ASDAN qualification programme.

Mercia Smith, who works with the children and teenagers at the project run by the Kent Refugee Action Network (Kran), said: "The young people all overcame substantial personal difficulties having needed to flee their home countries to remain safe.

"We have watched our young people turn into young men and their English, confidence and ambitions have grown month by month.

Contribution

"The course has helped the students to realise that they can make a positive contribution to their community through using their great skills and knowledge of life."

Ajmal Quraishi, Ashraf Ahmadzay, Ari Ali Hassan, Farhad Foad Hassan, Habib Akbari, Hayatullah Naizri and Mohammed Ayub Shinwary all completed a Bronze Award, which they all passed to a higher than required standard.

Mr Foad Hassan, from Iran, said: "When I come I had no English and now I learn for speaking with other people, reading and writing. I am very happy to get qualification. This is making something for me."

The Riverside Project provides help and support for 50 young people, who have been trafficked to Kent from places like Afghanistan, Iraq and Sudan.

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25% off park entry in June

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If you are over 18 years of age and happy to receive further information about special offers, events and news from Howletts and Port Lympne, please tick the box and enter your email address above ☐

Both parks are open daily except Christmas Day
Summer: 10am-6pm (last admission 4.30pm)
Winter: 10am-5pm (last admission 3.30pm)
Howletts Wild Animal Park, Bekesbourne Road, Bekesbourne, Canterbury, Kent, CT4 5EL
Port Lympne Wild Animal Park, Lympne, nr Ashford, Kent, CT21 4LR

See the animals for less this June

READER OFFER

HOWLETTS and Port Lympne Wild Animal Parks are teaming up with Kent on Sunday to offer readers an exclusive offer of 25 per cent off adult and child tickets to the parks in June.

Howletts and Port Lympne offer two very different days out for everyone. Whether you are fascinated by the rare and endangered animals within both parks, intrigued by the surrounding gardens and mansion house at Port Lympne, or just looking for an unforgettable day out, there will be something to see from the moment you arrive.

Port Lympne Wild Animal Park is set in 600 acres and houses the largest breeding herd of black rhino outside Africa, as well as African elephants, Siberian and Indian tigers, small cats, monkeys, Malayan tapirs, Barbary lions and many more rare and endangered species.

Other exciting features at Port Lympne include garden and mansion tours, the African Experience, Livingstone Overnight Safari Lodge and enrichment centre workshops*.

Howletts Wild Animal Park is set in 90 acres and includes the largest group of western lowland gorillas in captivity in the world and the largest herd of African elephants in the UK. A number of glass-fronted tiger enclosures allow for amazing views of the Sumatran and Indian tigers.

Picture: PREMIER PHOTOS UK

In addition, Howletts is home to assorted primates, clouded leopards, tapirs, Javan langurs, black rhino and Iberian wolves. There are plenty of other rare and endangered species from around the world.

Don't miss the opportunity to walk in an open-air enclosure where families of amazingly agile and lively lemurs roam freely.

Both parks offer a totally wild day out in Kent for all ages and interests!

The offer is valid for adults and child tickets throughout June, 2009. Simply visit **www.totallywild.net/tickets** and enter the promotional code: **KOS09** for your 25 per cent off adult and child tickets.

Or fill in and cut out the coupon on this offer and take it along to Port Lympne or Howletts Wild Animal Parks – photocopies not accepted.

*Other features at Port Lympne are subject to availability and an additional charge. Pre-booking is essential for some activities, please see the website for more information.

Bottle machine injury leads to £50,000 pay out

AN ENGINEER has won £50,000 compensation after almost losing an arm in a bottle-making machine.

David Cotterill suffered horrific injuries in the accident when he worked at a water bottling company.

His arm was pulled into the machine and he had to have vital medical treatment in France after UK hospitals said there was nothing more they could do for him.

The 29-year-old from Folkestone underwent specialist surgery following the incident at the Silver Spring Mineral Water Company's factory in the town.

His right arm was pulled into a bottle-making machine after he slipped on oil and water splashed on the factory floor and his shirt became caught in the mechanism as he tried to save himself from falling.

Safety doors on the machine had been left open. His arm was then dragged into the machine's workings.

Mr Cotterill took three months off to recover and now works for a different company. He said he had to travel to France for treatment on his arm after NHS consultants said they were at the end of the line.

Specialists in Paris found he had what is known as a "compartment injury", his muscles had swollen so much, they had became too big for the sheath surrounding them.

Surgeons carried out delicate keyhole surgery to cut holes in the sheath, which allowed the muscles to expand freely.

Mr Cotterill still suffers from pain, but his arm is slowly recovering.

Silver Spring Mineral Water Company admitted liability and settled out of court. Operations director David Hanlon said the company had nothing to say on the matter.

Old banger to have new life in America

By CHRIS MURPHY
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

FILM producer Graham Majin had always meant to repair his beloved Citroen 2CV, but after watching it rust away he put it up for sale, and was stunned when a fan from the USA arrived on his doorstep.

Mr Majin said the car had sat in the weeds for a year, collecting more and more rust, when he finally decided to get rid of it.

At his studio near Maidstone he said: "I put it on eBay and was astonished that someone from America contacted me about it.

"At first I thought it was a bit of a joke, but he offered to pay £500 immediately online, and then come over to collect it personally."

And it is a long journey home for the car by ship. The car was loaded into a container at Southampton for its trip across the Atlantic, through the Panama Canal and then north along the California coast before arriving in Seattle, Washington state, 5,000 miles away.

Mr Majin, who runs his own video production company, Kersh Media, said: "I am quite happy to get £500. It had been rusting away for 12 months outside the house after its MOT ran out. I made a film to run alongside the eBay auction, and it was that which sold it.

"The winning bid came from a loveable aging hippy. He emailed excitedly that no 2CV had ever been registered in Washington and that he and his family were flying over to collect it.

"It all sounded so crazy I grabbed my home movie camera and was on hand to film the family when they arrived. They brought US registration plates with them and there was a slightly bizarre United States citizenship ceremony for Dilly the 2CV."

New owner Doc Wheeler said: "It was the craziest of whims. I had been reading about this car and found they were hard to find in the US. That's when I checked the UK eBay site and found Dilly. I watched the car on YouTube and that was amazing."

When she finally arrives in Washington she'll be restored and will have pride of place in the college car park where her new owners work and where there is an existing collection of frugal cars. The state has introduced a tax break for owners of fuel-efficient cars.

For more details see www.kershmedia.co.uk.

FRESH START: Dilly the 2CV was given a US citizenship ceremony by her new owners

To see this clip search 'America' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

Meet the American family who travelled 5,000 miles to buy an old MOT failure they spotted on eBay

Hostel plans row goes to Appeal Court

A PLANNING row over designs for a controversial 'hostel' has intensified after a High Court judge ruled against a Kent council.

Gravesham Borough Council was refused an injunction against property developer HFHA Group to prevent the redevelopment of Cygnet House in Gravesend.

The council took legal action after residents raised concerns that the company was going to build a hostel instead of the 60-room budget hotel it had agreed planning permission for.

On Wednesday the council said it was now taking legal advice on mounting an action in the Court of Appeal.

Drug users

A spokesman said: "His Honour Judge Seymour said there was insufficient evidence the group [HFHA] intended to break its planning permission and building regulations.

"He indicated that the council was free to return to court if there was further evidence that the company was planning to open a hostel without consent."

In the meantime the council's planning committee is set to consider a new application from HFHA for a hostel at the site.

More than 50 people attended a protest over the plans last month. Resident Gordon Jenns, 63, said: "We wanted to show how strongly we are against having a hostel here... there will be people coming and going late at night, so it will be noisy.

"Also, when it's that cheap you don't know who is going to be staying there. It could be drink and drug users crashing there."

Richard Hammonds

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Animal rights protest as the big top rolls into spa town

Picture: CAPTIVE ANIMALS' PROTECTION SOCIETY

SHOWSTOPPER: The Great British Circus uses three elephants in its show

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

A CONTROVERSIAL travelling circus that uses elephants and lions in its shows has been criticised by politicians and animal rights campaigners in Kent.

Martin Lacey's Great British Circus, which boasts of having the largest collection of wild animals touring the country, came to Tunbridge Wells this week, for series of performances that end this evening.

Animal Aid, the UK's largest animal rights group, which is based in Tonbridge, held demonstrations at the circus site in Southborough yesterday evening and on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, calling for an end to exploiting animals for "entertainment".

"Life in a circus is completely inappropriate and cruel for wild animals," a spokeswoman for the group said. "All animals deserve to be treated with respect and dignity and have the right to live freely.

"Instead, the Great British Circus continues to keep them confined in cages, transport them around the country and parade them around the ring for the amusement of paying punters. The only 'great' thing about this circus is the suffering it inflicts."

Long-time animal welfare campaigner Roger Gale, the Tory MP for Thanet North, said there was no place for wild animals in circuses.

"The exotic types such as tigers, seals, elephants and the like, I can see no justification for their use. I have always been against that," said Mr Gale, who is president of the Conservative Animal Welfare Group.

NO LIFE: The Captive Animals' Protection Society, said its pictures of caged animals were taken at the Great British Circus, which has been visiting Tunbridge Wells this week

Freak show

"They will say the Animal Welfare Act means conditions are much more strict, but in terms of the wild animals I don't care what conditions are like – they should not be there at all. Big or small they are not designed to perform in circuses."

He said there was a case for domestic animals like dogs and horses to perform in circuses, as long as they were kept in good conditions, but not wild animals.

The Great British Circus tours with three elephants, tigers, lions, zebras, camels, llamas, horses, ponies, goats and reindeer.

The Lincolnshire-based circus is the last in the UK to parade big cats and one of just three that still uses wild animals.

Caroline Lucas, leader of the Green Party and a South East MEP, said: "I join with International Animal Rescue, Animal Aid in Tonbridge and other animal welfare campaigners in calling on local people who are concerned about animal welfare to stay away from this sad display.

"The once-popular travelling freak shows have been relegated to the past where they belong and now the EU must ensure the same fate for animal circuses."

Dr Lucas, who is vice-president of the RSPCA, has been using her position in the EU to work towards ending the use of animals in circuses.

"In the wild, large animals such as big cats are social creatures, living and travelling in groups or herds.

"In circuses, they live in mobile wagons and often spend most of the day chained up.

"If they are lucky, they might have access to a grassed electric fenced enclosure or slightly larger exercise area," she said.

"This lifestyle prevents them from being able to perform natural behaviours like hunting, playing and grooming, increasing the likelihood of abnormal behaviours such as rocking, swaying, and pacing."

Hearsay

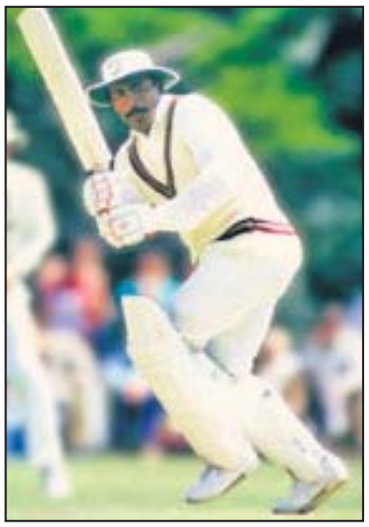
Martin Lacey, director of the circus, said a recent Government report supported the case for using wild animals in circuses.

He said there was not animal cruelty and a Defra report did not dispute they received the best possible care and attention.

"The people of Kent like to see animals in classical circus and are quite capable of making up their own minds about the way we care for our animals without the so-called 'advice' from animal welfare organisations who base their flimsy arguments on hearsay, myth and untruths," Mr Lacey added.

The first global study of animal welfare in circuses, which was led by researcher Stephen Harris of the University of Bristol, recently concluded that elephants, lions and tigers are the wild animals least suited to life in a circus.

Schoolboys face cricket stars



ALL-STAR LINE-UP: Cricketing legend Gordon Greenidge and commentator Henry Blofeld (right) will play in the match

A DECADE-OLD tradition continues this year as star-studded Lashings cricket club plays a local school, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

This year England's wittiest and best-loved cricket commentator Henry Blofeld and former West Indies fast bowler Curtly Ambrose will also attend.

They are the guests of honour at the annual match between Sutton Valence School and the Lashings World X1.

The match features a Lashings squad which includes former England stars Phil de Freitas, Devon Malcolm and John Emburey, South African batsman Herschelle Gibbs, Zimbabwean all-rounder Henry Olonga and West Indian opener Gordon Greenidge under the captaincy of New Zealander Chris Harris.

The cricketing tradition between Lashings and Sutton Valence School goes back more than 10 years and was the brainchild of Lashings World XI founder David Folb, who is also an old boy at the school.

Past players have included Brian Lara, Mark Waugh and Sachin Tendulkar.

Around 500 spectators turn out each year to watch the match, with 100 or so enjoying lunch and tea at the Maidstone school.

Headmaster Joe Davies said: "Sutton Valence has an excellent reputation as a cricketing school with ex-pupils Robbie Joseph and Rob Ferley currently playing for Kent, with Robbie hotly tipped as an England player of the future."

The extraordinary Lashings cricket story started when in 1995, Mr Folb went to Antigua to open a beach café and then happened to convince legend Richie Richardson to sign-up and play for the Maidstone restaurant team. He went on to form an all-star cricket team with players including Muttiah Muralitharan, Brian Lara, Shoaib Akhtar and Sir Viv Richards.

As well as playing cricket, the team does tireless work for charities and does all it can to promote and raise money for worthwhile causes.

The match is at the school on Friday, 19 June. Tickets are £50 including a drinks reception at 11.15am, lunch with a speech from Henry Blofeld, tea with the Lashings players, with reserved seating and car parking. Corporate lunch tables for eight are also available at £400. If you just want to watch, it's £5 on the day.

Enquiries to Rebecca Riggs, Sutton Valence School Development Office, email riggsr@svs.co.uk.

Doc backs women who say 'Sorry, I've got a headache'

WOMEN suffer from more headaches, and with worse pain, than men.

And now a consultant who specialises in headaches has launched a clinic in Thanet, but one day wants to have one in every Kent hospital.

Dr Andrew Dowson currently runs a clinic at the Bethesda Medical Centre, in Cliftonville, every Wednesday, but as his patient list grows, wants to organise more.

He said: "It is surprising just how many people do suffer from really serious headaches and it tends to be women who suffer more than men."

A study presented to the International Association for the Study of Pain in Glasgow found women generally experience more recurrent pain, more severe pain and longer lasting pain than men.

Dr Dowson, who runs the East Kent Headache Services at the medical centre, said: "Figures show women are three times as likely to suffer from migraines – a serious, debilitating headache – than men are, which is partly due to their monthly hormonal cycle.

"But headaches are still perceived as a weakness, so lots of men don't want their employers to know that they are sufferers.

"Men are more likely to say they are suffering with something other than migraine, such a bad cold, if they need time off."

Even the Migraine Trust found half of all men were embarrassed to admit they get migraines.

Dr Dowson is director of headache services at Kings College Hospital in London.

He said: "About three years ago, the East Kent Primary Care Trust asked me if I wanted to establish a service for the area and the genesis of that is in Margate on Wednesdays.

"It has built up to the point where we have quite a full clinic now. They are mostly from Thanet, but we are also getting people from Canterbury, Dover, and Ashford. I would like to see these clinics in all Kent hospitals and beyond. There is a clear need for them."

He said: "There are sex differences between different headaches. For example, woman are much more likely to suffer from migraines."

Dr Dowson said: "I look to break the pattern of headaches, but surgery is never needed, well, so far. It is usually medicines, either prescriptions or sometimes over the counter, plus maybe a lifestyle change to get them out of the hole they find themselves in, just because they suffer from headaches. It is a global thing.

"Headaches rarely require a surgical intervention. People imagine that a headache is the harbinger of something awful like brain tumours, but that is very rarely the case.

"For those with brain tumours, a headache is very, very rarely the first symptom."

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D-Day hero one of the first behind enemy lines

Veteran tells of the night glider mission and fight to secure bridges for arrival of the Allied landing troops

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A WORLD War Two veteran has relived the moment he and his courageous comrades surprised the Nazis to secure an important D-Day victory.

Corporal Bill Howard was one of 180 men who glided into France on June 6, 1944, to secure the two bridges at Benouville and ensure access for the invading Allied troops.

The operation, which was the first on D-Day, has since been described as the finest piece of airmanship of the war.

Bexleyheath resident Mr Howard is now 86, but he still has a clear memory of one of the most important victories in British history, and one that turned the tide of the war.

He said: "I remember getting ready to take off the night before at Tarrant Rushton airfield in Dorset.

"We were going to be towed by Halifax bombers and it suddenly hit me that we were going to be the first ones in and that about 100,000 men were going to follow us.

"We knew we had to stick there for about six hours until everybody else arrived, but even from the early days of the war we knew there was a

MEMORIES: Corporal Bill Howard, then aged 21, took part in he daring glider raid at Benouville in the early hours of D-Day

Band of Brothers research used in new Pegasus book

RESEARCH conducted by Band of Brothers author Stephen Ambrose has been put to good use for a new book on D-Day.

The American historian died six years ago, but interviews he carried out with World War Two veterans before writing the 1992 best-seller have been kept for future generations.

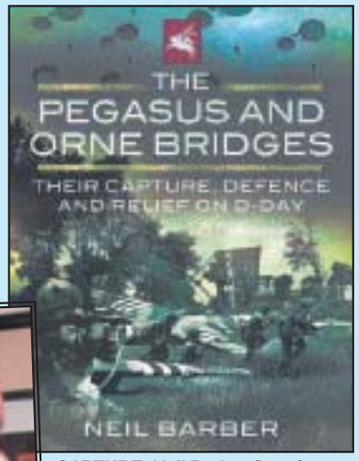
Bexley resident Neil Barber is one of those to benefit from the collection, which he used to help him pen The Pegasus and Orne Bridges – Their Capture, Defence and Relief on D-Day.

Speaking to Kent on Sunday before yesterday's 65th anniversary of the Normandy Landings, Mr Barber revealed how helpful Ambrose's research had been.

He said: "It was very useful because although I interviewed about 50 survivors myself, a lot of the people he spoke to have long since died.

"He didn't use a lot of the interviews for Band of Brothers either, so his son gave me permission to listen to the tapes and they were a great help.

"You get a mixture of emotions from the veterans, depending on who you speak to. There's one in particular who won't talk about D-Day at all but most are very proud of what they achieved and consider themselves very lucky to have got through the whole thing.



CAPTURE: Neil Barber (inset) retells the tale of the battle to take Pegasus and Orne Bridges in the early hours of D-Day

"Although it was a long time ago and memories can often fade away, there are always things that stick in the mind."

Built across the Caen Canal in northern France and the nearby Orne River respectively, the Pegasus Bridge and Horsa Bridge were the locations for the first actions of D-Day.

In the early hours of June 6, 1944, a force of 181 men landed in six gliders to capture the structures within 10 minutes, thereby preventing German fighters from attacking the eastern flank of the landings at Sword Beach.

Mr Baker said he felt this year's D-Day celebrations would be the last of their kind due to the small number of veterans still alive to take part.

He said: "There are a number of veterans who go out to Normandy every year and they will continue to do so until the day they die, but it's important we continue to remember what happened because we can all learn from history.

"A lot of bridges have been built since the war and obviously we're all friends now, but who knows what the world would be like now if it hadn't been for men like these.

"They deserve to be remembered for what they did, as they were willing to give everything for us."

• ***The Pegasus and Orne Bridges – Their Capture, Defence and Relief on D-Day will be released through Pen and Sword Books later this month. Visit www.pen-and-sword.co.uk to order a copy.***

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DEADLY MISSION: British troops in gliders towed by Halifax bombers were among the first to face occupying German forces on D-Day

good possibility we might die at some point during it.

"We set off at about 10.30pm on June 5 and landed on the bridges at about 12.20am.

"The glider I was in targeted the Orne Bridge across the river but when we arrived we weren't sure if any of the others were there, so we had to run across it shouting our code word 'easy'.

"There were several Germans there who we shot at, and we also had to bash in the front door of a nearby house just in case there were any more inside.

"We ended up waking two French peasants and they weren't very happy with us."

Mr Howard's comrades who captured the nearby Pegasus Bridge had a greater number of Nazis to contend with, but their operation was also completed with relative ease.

However, the next day was a completely different story.

Mr Howard said: "I think on the first night we lost one man wounded from my platoon, but the next day a company that had been 180-strong finished up with just 40 men.

"We were sent to Escoville where we were supposed to take up positions against the German Panzers, but we were slaughtered.

"I was the only member of my platoon left by the time I was wounded two-and-a-half months later, and I look back on that with a sense of guilt.

"I think we were just fortunate to be the first people to land on D-Day because there were many other battles that day which were a lot worse than ours."

Mr Howard, who was 21 at the time of the operation, has visited the war graves of his friends in the past, but did not travel to Normandy this weekend for the commemorations attended by Barack Obama and Prince Charles.

He said he expected the D-Day anniversary to be marked in a different way once he and his fellow war veterans had died.

Mr Howard said: "I think people will always be interested in what happened during the war, but once there are no emotional ties left it will not be the same.

"Perhaps it will be looked at in a more historical way in the future, like the Battle of Trafalgar and others are."

Highest military honour for veteran

D-DAY veteran George Batts from Maidstone was honoured by the French Government yesterday for his role in liberating their country in 1944.

The 83-year-old was part of a group of nine men and one woman from Britain who all took part in the D-Day landings.

He received the Legion d'Honneur in a ceremony in Paris marking the 65th anniversary of D-Day.

Mr Batts, who was in the Royal Engineers, landed on Gold Beach during the liberation of France.

He was made a Knight of the Legion d'Honneur and was presented with the prestigious Chevalier medal by the French Minister of State for Defence and Veterans, Jean-Marie Bockel.

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Man spurred by uncle's death in air ambulance tragedy to compete in Yukon canoe race

THE nephew of an Air Ambulance pilot killed in a horror crash 11 years ago is putting his own life at risk to raise money for the service, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

Pilot Graham Budden, 40, died with the rest of the crew when the chopper clipped power lines as it approached Rochester airport, and plunged to the ground, exploding in a fireball.

Also on board during the fatal flight in July, 1998, were paramedics Tony Richardson, 47, and Mark Darby, 37.

Mr Budden had been partially blamed for the incident because he was flying too low "for fun", but his widow Linda, from Surrey, won a High Court case in Manchester in 2004, clearing his name.

An Air Accident Investigation ruled out the "fun" allegation and the High Court decided that with little left of the machine for analysis, the crash had been caused by a mechanical failure.

Now Mr Budden's nephew Peter Budden is taking part in the world's longest canoe race to raise funds for the charity. He is setting out from the isolated town of Whitehorse to paddle 460 miles to gold rush town Dawson City, both in Yukon, northern Canada and close to the Alaskan border.

The 25-year-old from London and his team-mate, Dave Towsend, will be two of 100 competitors in the event.

They want to finish in 60 hours with just two required breaks for food and rest. They will be travelling through the midnight sun in late June.

Peter said: "This is a really tough challenge, the world's longest canoeing marathon, through remote wilderness and a real test of mental as well as physical endurance and technique. I'm doing it for the challenge, but also in memory of my uncle who was a great inspiration. As well as a highly professional pilot, he was always fun to be with and a great advocate of outdoor activities and adventure."

They stand little chance of winning and admit they are up against some of the world's best canoeists including elite adventure-racers and former Olympic athletes.

After a visit to the Air Ambulance's base, Peter added: "It's great to be able to see the Air Ambulance up close, and meet the team. I only had a short time with the crew, because they had just returned from one mission and flew off to answer another call almost immediately, but I am amazed at their energy and dedication.

"They clearly do a fantastic job and I am proud to know that my uncle was involved in doing such vital work and it carries on today."

The Air Ambulance Service, which covers Kent, Surrey and Sussex, costs around £3 million annually to stay airborne, but gets no official funding, relying instead entirely on public donations. It has two helicopters that are based at Marden and Dunsfold.

• ***To make a contribution to Peter's campaign visit www.justgiving.com/peterbudden.***

Picture: IMAGES INTERNATIONAL LTD

EXTREME MEASURES: Peter Budden will be raising cash for the Air Ambulance, a cause close to his heart after his uncle Graham, a pilot for the service, died when his helicopter hit power lines and crashed

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Plaque tribute to Bagpuss creator

By CHRIS MURPHY
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A MEMORIAL plaque has been unveiled at the home of children's TV legend Oliver Postgate, to honour the man who created Bagpus and The Clangers.

But some visitors may need to squint to see the wording as the Broadstairs town council was forced to place it high on the wall to frustrate hooligans who may have wanted to deface it.

Administrator Pat Illsley said: "The memorial plaque is quite high up on the wall to deter any sweet little vandals who may have wanted to engrave all over it."

Captivated

The television writer and puppeteer changed TV animation forever when the likes of Bagpuss, The Clangers, Ivor the Engine, and Noggin the Nog appeared to a captivated audience.

Incredibly, just 13 Bagpuss episodes were created, but people loved them so much, the pink puss became an icon, and was even named in 1999 as Britain's favourite children's show.

It has since topped many polls of children's TV programmes, often closely followed by the strangely engrossing sounds of The Clangers, and their friend the Soup Dragon.

Mr Postgate created the characters with long-term collaborator Peter Firmin.

The plaque was unveiled by Mayor Mave Saunders outside of the home of the children's show writer last Saturday.

Mr Postgate died last December, aged 83, after a long illness.

His partner Naomi Lindell said: "It is super to have this plaque up.

"He would have liked the idea of having the plaque up, but he would also have thought it hilariously funny because he was like that.

"He took his work very seriously and he took seriously what people thought of his work. That is what he was interested in, not himself.

"The fact that the plaque says 'animator and author' would please him. He would want to be remembered for his work."

Miss Lindell revealed his deep love for the seaside town. She said: "A lot of people here will remember him. He had lots of friends here, plus there are many people who over the years met him and liked him a lot.

"He was modest about his person and intensely concerned about his work, getting it right. He did agonise over that.

"We have notice a lot of people are stopping outside to look at it. A lot are tourists, but many locals are too.

"He was very enamoured with Broadstairs – he loved it here."

MUCH LOVED: Oliver Postgate (left) and outside his house, the late animator's partner Naomi Lindell (holding Bagpuss) with the mayoress of Broadstairs and St Peter's and friends at the unveiling of the plaque in his honour (inset)

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Delicious art materials

Youngsters are invited to draw upon their knowledge of seasonal Kent foods to create a Summer Fruit & Veg Masterpiece for display alongside the professionals

IT IS often said good food can be a work of art. And now a contest has been launched to underline that very point.

Unveiled yesterday by the champion of regionally produced food and drink – Produced in Kent – school children in primary schools across the county are being asked to take part in a major art competition. And the aim? To create a Summer Fruit & Veg Masterpiece. The competition is open to all primary school children from reception classes through to Year 6 and entrants are challenged to create their Summer Fruit & Veg Masterpiece out of real seasonal, regional fruit and vegetables and photograph it. Alternatively they can make a fruit and veg collage using recycled materials and household waste, or children can simply paint or draw their masterpiece. The picture can depict any subject from a smiley face, through to a landscape, or still life.

The crucial ingredient in all the artworks being produced is that they all focus on the delicious range of fresh locally produced food and drink in our county.

It coincides with our 2009 KOS Media campaign urging our readers to buy locally produced or supplied food and drink wherever possible.

Supported by Produced in Kent – and spearheaded by our one-stop shop for all your local food and drink shopping needs, www.foodforkent.co.uk – the campaign is designed to cut down on unnecessary food miles, support our local rural communities and protect traditional industries. All in addition to the unbeatable taste and health benefits of local, fresh food. Now it is hoped this competition will help hammer home the message to youngsters about the benefits of eating seasonal, local, produce.

Julie Monkman, manager of Produced in Kent explains: "This competition is a really fun and creative way to engage children in Kent with regionally and seasonally grown fruit and vegetables. The message about healthy eating and eating your 'five-a-day' has really started to filter through to families and increasingly both parents and children want to reduce their carbon footprint.

"By buying and using locally grown fruit and veg that is in season, families will not only be consuming healthier, fresher and more nutritious food, they will be helping to keep our county and the planet greener."

The countywide contest will see 10 lucky children, who submit the best piece of art, awarded a fabulous range of prizes worth hundreds of pounds, while the overall winner will be presented with a stunning photographic foodscape picture by TV's celebrity food photographer Carl Warner.

Children can find out what fruit and vegetables are in season in Kent this summer on the seasonality chart on the Produced in Kent website (simply go to www.producedinkent.co.uk and follow the Useful Information and Seasonality links).

To enter the competition children can either submit electronic photographs of their work by email or send in their paper drawings/paintings to Produced in Kent's headquarters by Friday, September 18. Address details can be found on the website.

Children should clearly indicate their full name, school year group, the name of their school, age, a contact telephone number and email address. The age of the child will be taken into account during the judging by Produced in Kent's manager Julie Monkman and Carl Warner, but the entry should be entirely the work of the child.

The overall winner and runners up will be invited to the Food & Drink Festival in Canterbury on Saturday, September 26, where Mr Warner will present the prizes on the Produced in Kent exhibition stand. In addition to the foodscape picture, worth hundreds of pounds and a winner's certificate, the winner will be awarded a £50 voucher by Great Art (the UK's leading art suppliers) and a Great Art 12-pan colour box will be presented to the nine runners up with certificates.

To enter visit www.producedinkent.co.uk.

Free food for children

YOU already know the benefits of buying local food and drink; and now thanks to the 2009 KOS Media campaign you can help boost the coffers of your local school too.

Food for Schools is our new exciting scheme to donate money to our schools every time you shop with www.foodforkent.co.uk.

But we need YOUR help to let us know which schools should get the cash and to help spread the word of all the benefits to health, the local economy and your back pocket, that buying local brings.

The www.foodforkent.co.uk website is spearheading our campaign by offering a huge range of seasonal produce – all sourced, wherever possible, from Kent – and is the perfect one-stop shop for all your shopping needs.

Now everytime you place an order over £40 on the site, we'll donate £2.50 to your nominated school. All you have to do is let us know which school you want to support and give the money to; and then tell your friends and other parents too. Every time they then spend on the site, another £2.50 will go towards the school – you'll be surprisedhow quickly it adds up.

You may be a parent, teacher, governor or member of the PTA but to ensure your school benefits, simply contact Jonathan Parker direct by emailing your details to schools@foodforkent.co.uk. You will then be given a special code and every time you then shop with www.foodforkent.co.uk £2.50 will go towards the school – with the money handed over every month.

Foodforkent.co.uk is created by teaming up with long-established local producers of food and drink across the county with impeccable reputations and a guarantee of top quality. It offers fresh, seasonal vegetables, fruit, meats, bread, dairy products and much more besides.

What's more, our price comparisons prove you can actually SAVE money from buying like-for-like products at supermarkets – dispelling the myth that buying local comes at a cost. But don't take our word for it – visit the site today; www.foodforkent.co.uk.

Farms to open their gates

FARMS from across the county will be throwing open their gates today to give shoppers the chance to take a peak behind the scenes of where their food comes from.

Open Farm Sunday – the farming industry's very own open day takes place tomorrow. Designed to show the work farmers do and how they produce our food and protect our countryside, the event is organised by LEAF – Linking Environment and Farming.

Among the farms taking place are ones in Edenbridge, Staplehurst, Ashford, Tenterden, and Hildenborough. A full list is at www.farmsunday.org.

foodforkent.co.uk We are committed to adding more local suppliers to our online service and any local business or producer that wishes to join our campaign should contact us at foodforkent.co.uk or email us at feedback@kosmedia.co.uk

KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

Tories must deliver, Labour must learn

VOTER discontent with the Labour Government has clearly been reflected in the outcome of Kent's county election.

The county's now all-powerful Conservative Party swept to victory, winning 74 of the council's 84 seats. The political map of the Garden of England is now awash with blue and only a few speckles of yellow for the Liberal Democrats' seven seats.

In a shock loss, Kent Labour Party's leader Mike Eddy was unseated from his Deal ward and as results poured in the party failed to make any recovery. North west Kent was all but lost to the Tories and a residents' association.

Labour held on to seats in Ramsgate and Northfleet and Gravesend, but had to share the spoils with the Conservatives.

As the Tories spend the weekend celebrating many will be left wondering what effect their huge dominance in the council chamber will have on politics and democracy in the county.

The Conservatives must not be complacent. Yes, they have a good track record and Kent County Council is rated 'excellent' as an authority, but voters must see improvements to services in return for their votes.

All their successes cannot be put down to failures at central Government level alone, but it clearly played some part. By the same token, Labour's dismal performance cannot be blamed solely on the situation at Westminster.

The Labour Party in Kent must learn from what happened this week and come back stronger so the county can benefit from greater variety in its politics.

OPINION: Another bad Korea move

The main stumbling block to peaceful progress in Asia is China's support of brutal regimes, says Tim Garbutt

WITH a nuclear explosion the size of the Hiroshima blast in North Korea, the Taliban at one point 60 miles from Pakistan's capital and nuclear weapons, and the Burmese junta placing Aung San Suu Kyi on trial, it's hard to believe that Asia hasn't slid backwards in the last 10 years.

North Korea doesn't have many links with Kent. No tourists. No embassy in UK. Relatives of Kim Jong-Il the Dear Leader, Great Leader and, just for good measure, Supreme Commander, tend to shop and visit the cinema in Macau rather than Maidstone.

He's a film fan, so South Korean film director Shin Sang-ok and his actress wife were kidnapped in order to build a North Korean film industry. You may also remember the dozens of Japanese civilians kidnapped, and hundreds of South Koreans killed in bizarre military missions. Nice guy. Funny, too – if he didn't have his finger on the nuclear trigger facing Japan, Korea, Taiwan and China.

Maybe we should care a little more. North Korea won't be sending many athletes to London for the 2012 Olympics (only 63 athletes and one gold medal at Beijing 2008), but China will.

And if ever there was a regime propped up by its Big Brother neighbour, then China's support of North Korea is only outstripped by Chinese support of Burma. Readers may be aware of concerns over the brutal and undemocratic regime in Burma, and the UK's failure to provide assistance during Cyclone Nargis. To read Foreign Office statements, though, you'd think the UK did act. Hardly, 250,000 Burmese – equivalent to a quarter of Kent's population – died through lack of effort from Britain, France and the USA.

These things have a habit of coming back to bite us: nearly 200,000 troops in Iraq for failing to finish the first Gulf War in 1991; and nearly 50,000 troops in Afghanistan for failing to finish the Taliban off in 2002.

If you're a policeman patrolling Bluewater, the Channel Tunnel or Dover harbour after the recent Al-Qaida attacks, then you may not be reassured to know North Korea and Burma have links to nuclear and chemical weapons, with clear links into Pakistan and Afghanistan and radical Islamic groups in Indonesia, Malaysia and the Middle East.

Worth remembering if you're heading up to London on the tube or train. It's not scaremongering, but the result of what we do or don't do with some of the more unpleasant regimes.

Iran's nuclear tests and threat, especially after the removal of Saddam and the Taliban, are nothing compared with Pakistan and North Korea. If you're a tourist heading to Asia, you might want to be aware that given the recent US-South Korean military manoeuvres, North Korea has again warned that aircraft in its airspace can again be shot down.

Again? Yes. Remember KAL 007 brought down by the Soviets in 1983? Just a month later North Korea assassinated 21 diplomats from the South Korean cabinet. In Burma.

War-crime regimes tend to stick together to share the few bargaining chips they have: nuclear and chemical weapons technology, foreign currency, terrorism and military weaponry and sometimes drug smuggling.

Without full democratic scrutiny these things tend to flourish on the whim of the Dear, Great, Supreme Leader. Unpopular regimes like those in Burma and North Korea, if they have a strong military, can last a very long time. Look at the Russians in Eastern Europe. Korea is the Cold War that never ended, with just an armistice since July, 1953. There were more than 1,000 British dead in that forgotten – and first UN – war. Burma has been a sealed regime since 1962, even more so since the failed Aung San Suu Kyi democracy movement of 1988 and the Buddhist revolt of 2007.

But like the East Germans, Czechs and Romanians after the Russians withdrew, Burma and North Korea would crumble within weeks if China ceased its support. China is the stumbling block to a free Korea and Burma; to a nuclear-free and united Korean peninsula; to free-trade autonomous Hong Kong-style zones with Taiwan and Tibet – a block to possibly the greatest step forward for peace in East Asia.

• ***Tim Garbutt is managing director of Sincerity Agency, a green and ethical advertising agency in Kent.***

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Time for them to care

Isn't this a perfect time for the carers of the region and in fact, the country, to now put as much pressure as possible on this discredited and corrupt government, to make some major changes to the disgrace that is the carers allowance?

I know the subject has been touched on recently by the media, but in view of the DWP minister James Purnell allegedly being involved in the current expenses scandal, while purporting to be working hard to help us carers, if this is true I would suggest this man to be one of the worst types of human beings ever to be given a position of authority in the Government.

Mr Brown must start taking action to improve the lives of possibly the hardest-working, lowest-rewarded group of people in our society.

I am aware there have been two 10-year plans to help carers, but nothing has come of the first and we are approaching the second year of the second plan and again nothing is happening.

We must act now, before this Government is sent packing to where it belongs, and we have to suffer the Conservatives, who will likely do exactly the same, and have a cunning plan to promise much and do nothing.

I for one am happy to get involved in any non-confrontational, peaceful pressure activities for change, and change now, before they get away with it any longer

Scott Burns,
Rochester

Babies aren't the problem: OAPs are

I agree with Sir David Attenborough (KoS, May 31) on two points; a) the population and finite planet, and b) nature will resolve it.

But I am curious as to how a naturalist could perceive the solution to be birth limitation.

The birth rate is not the problem, it's the number not dying, scientific 'advances' have blocked the drain. One can see the problem in any demographic report.

If one looks at the wider picture than the one Sir David presents: The population was one billion at the beginning of the industrial revolution in 1750. 1.5 billion when the first oil well started production in 1860 (110 years). Two billion when I was born in 1940 (80 years). It is now 6.8 billion (4.8 billion in 69 years), and still increasing.

It is exponential, not sustainable.

Finite resources that took millions of years to produce are being consumed at an ever-increasing rate.

Food production increased with the so-called 'green revolution' of fossil fertilizers and agri-chemicals, wheat yields increased from one ton per acre to four tons, that will fall with the depletion of oil, fertilizers, etc.

We will have to have genetically modified plants and foods to fill the gap, is there no end to this insanity?

Ever-increasing amounts of farmland is being concreted over to satisfy the demand for housing, employment, recreation etc.

The single child issue cannot work, it has been tried, and stopped, for the very simple reason of numbers.

If we say the average age for having that child is 20, by the time that child reaches 20, found a mate and ready to produce, they will have four parents of 40 years, eight grandparents of 60 years, 16 great-grandparents of 80 years.

Even without medical 'advances' raising the age up to 100, there will be a massive overload on the ability of the young to support them, either individually, as in a lot of countries, or through the state.

We are about to hit the demographic time-bomb with the baby-boomers.

'Mother' nature is very benevolent, she does not comply with computers, or the idiosyncrasies of the human race or any other species, quite rightly she does things her way.

She has been known to have the occasional bought of PMT, I watch with interest to see whether it will be global warming another ice-age, or simply a human induced exhaustion of natural resources.

This, like the financial borrowing 'solutions', is passing the buck to the future, the young and un-born, and they do not have a vote on the issue.

There is a very simple solution, unfortunately it is politically, morally and religiously unacceptable, but nature will take no notice of any of them, anymore than she will the human safety nets such as the health service, health and safety, etc.

Bernard Clayson
St Nicholas at Wade
Birchington

Our MP is a good man

Like most people, my wife and I welcomed the revelations about the abuses of the MPs' expenses system, but the interest aroused has turned the exposure of a few into a witch-hunt of the many.

Adam Holloway, MP for Gravesend, has been criticised for buying carpet, vacuum cleaner, washer/dryer and a TV for his second home in the centre of the town. Why? He would not have needed to buy any of these things if he were not living here to serve us.

Do we expect him to have bare boards, dusty floors and do his laundry on a washboard? All the purchases revealed so far have been at average prices: there are no luxuries. I am concerned that media frenzy and public hysteria do not combine to hound out one of the best MPs Gravesend has ever had.

I know Adam to be absolutely and tirelessly committed to his work here. There are so many reports of his kindness and help to the poor, the damaged and the under-privileged. His second home is not a 'perk' or a property investment – and he cannot be expected to commute 'like the rest of us'. His hours as an MP are unpredictable and very long.

A responsible local press must ensure Adam Holloway is not tarred with the same brush as the moat cleaners, duck house purchasers and the 'forgot I paid off the mortgage' brigade. MPs are not all the same: Ann Widdecombe is not Elliott Morley.

Adam's claims, like the man himself, are modest and fair. Adam is on Gravesend's side. It is time for us to show we are on his.

Peers Carter
Southfleet

YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

Letters continued on page 42

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BIRTHS

ASHER
Pratapsinh and Pratima Asher celebrate the birth of their grandaughter Krishi Asher on 26th May 2009.

BEATTY
Kevin and Vicki announce the early arrival of their second son and brother to Luke, Ben Richard Beatty, on 30th April 2009 weighing 6lbs at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Margate.

CHITTENDEN
Ethan Robert Colin Chittenden born on 22nd May 2009, weighing 5lb 11oz. Son to Nichola Moore and Craig Chittenden of East Malling.

COGGER-TIVEY
Ruby-Loiuse Marion Cogger-Tivey born on 26th May 2009, weighing 5lb 1oz. Daughter to Leanne Cogger and Matthew Tivey in Maidstone.

DYE
Jamie and Karen Dye celebrate the birth of their son Thomas Roy Dye on 17th May 2009 weighing 8lbs 8.5ozs.

DYMOTT
James and Lauren of Herne Bay are proud to announce the birth of their son, William Alan Dymott, on 19th May 2009.

HARRE-YOUNG
Nathan Christopher born on the 20th May 2009, weighing 8lbs 14ozs. Son to Simon and Sarah of Hawkinge.

LONG
Tim and Sarah of Whitstable are very proud to announce the early but safe arrival of their beautiful daughter, Murfie Temperance Serafina, on 21st May 2009.A new sister for George, Sophia, Herbie, Kendra and Buster.

MAJOR
Harrison William Barry Major born 26th May 2009, weighing 7lb 12oz. Son to Clare and Darren and brother to Ryan in Canterbury.

MAYERS
Frankey and Georgina of Whitstable are pleased to announce the arrival of their beautiful daughter, Mia Louise, on 19th May 2009. A new baby sister for Luis and Lucas.

OLASUPO
Afolabi and Basirat are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their beautiful twin boys who arrived at St Thomass Hospital Lambeth on the 15th May 2009. First born was Abdul-Raheem Taiwo Oluwadolabomi Oliver Akanji Olasupo at 12.42 pm. He was closely followed by Abdul-Rahman Kehinde Oluwatomigbokanle Liam Akanni Olasupo at 12.43pm. Their parents and brothers Anas and Ashraf are thrilled.

PAY
Harrison born on 25th May 2009,weighing 8lbs 7oz. Son to Stephen and Claire. Welcome little brother to Michael.

RUMBOLD
Gill, John and Benjamin welcome their little miracle Adam James, a precious and much wanted son and brother, born on 15th May 2009 in Ashford.

STEMP
Jessica Katy born on 7th May 2009, weighing 6lbs 12oz. Daughter to Hannah and Damian in Maidstone.

STEWART-STANTON
Andrew and Suzannah Stewart-Stanton of Canterbury are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Isabelle Mae, at home on 3rd May 2009, weighing 6lbs 3oz.

TERRY
Nanci and Gary Terry celebrate the birth of their sons William Jack Welbrock Terry, weighing 6lbs 10oz and Lucas George Welbrock Terry, weighing 6lbs 4oz on 15th May 2009

TULLETT
Louise and Daniel celebrate the birth of their daughter Niamh Emma on 26th May 2009, sister to Hannah.

UPTON
Bella born on 22nd May 2009, in Maidstone Hospital, weighing 7lbs. Daughter to Catherine and Simon.

WANSTALL
Carl and Natalie of Herne Bay are delighted to announce the birth of their twin sons on 14th May 2009. Henry was born at 21.11 weighing 5Ib 15oz and William was born at 21.20 weighing 4lb 1oz. New brothers for Sophia.

WEAVER
Matthew and Leiann Weaver of Hartley celebrate the birth of their son Owen Matthew Weaver born on 7th May 2009 weighing 7lb 15oz. A baby brother for Jay.

DEATHS

BRADLEY
Maurice Arthur Bradley of Swanley passed away on 28th May 2009. Loving husband to Pam and dad to Michael and Julie. Funeral enquiries to Doves Funerals Swanley.

BROWN
Lionel William Relf Brown died peacefully on 29th May 2009. Funeral Service at Vinters Park on 16th June 2009 at 12.30pm.

DANIELS
Leslie John Daniels of Vigo Village passed away on 28th May. He will be sadly missed by wife Betty, Anne, John, Jill, Carly and Leon. Funeral has taken place.

DILLON
Maude (Sally) of Broadstairs passed away peacefully at Pilgrims Hospice in Thanet on 28th May 2009. Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends especially her Husband Herbert. Contact Nobles of St Peters for funeral details in celebration of her life. No flowers please, donations to Pilgrims Hospice

DURMAN
Keith Durman of Stanford North passed away peacefully after a long illness on the 25th May 2009.

FULCHER
Martin Bruce Fulcher passed away on 27th May 2009 aged 50 years. Husband to Susan, dearly loved father of Alice and Jack. Funeral service at Vinters Park on 18th June at 2pm. Donations can be made to Cancer research.

GATES
Diana Daisy Gates passed away peacefully on 1st June 2009. A much loved mum, grandma and great grandma who will be sadly missed.The funeral will be held at Barham on 22nd June 2009. Please contact Woollard and Kent 01227 772300 for further details.

MARCEL
Brenda Marcel passed away peacefully at home with her family on the 23rd May 2009. She will be missed by us all.

MEACHAM
Harold (Ron) Meacham passed away on 26th May 2009, aged 95. Dearly loved husband of Josie, father of Paul, Jane, Sue and Vicki, grandfather to Andrew, Laura, Gyles, Matthew, Thomas, Stephen and Benjamin, great grandfather to Cedar and Kite. Funeral service at Vinters Park Crematorium at 11am on Monday 22nd June. Family flowers only but donations may be made to The Woodland Trust.

RINGROW
Noel Anthony Frederick Ringrow of Tankerton (formerly Mitcham) passed away quite suddenly on 26th May 2009. A much loved husband, dad and grandad, he will be so very sadly missed by all of his family and those who knew him. There will be a private family funeral but if desired any donations to The British Heart Foundation.

SAUNDERS
Sad loss of a dear husband and father Alan Mark Roy Saunders born 12/05/1935. Died peacefully on 28th May 2009. His family wish to thank Priory Mews Nursing Home who cared for him. God Bless.

SHARMAN
Jennifer Sharman of Teynham passed away on 1st June 2009 after a long battle with cancer. A much loved wife and mother who will be very sadly missed. All funeral enquiries to Hogben and Partis of Stone Street Faversham.

SKULL
William (Bill) Skull of Margate,formerly of Deal,passed away peacefully after a long illness on 27th May 2009,aged 61years.To live in the hearts of those left behind is to live forever.

TAYLOR
Eveline Taylor of Whitstable passed peacefully away on 25th May 2009. A much loved mother, sister, mother-in-law and grandma who will be deeply missed. Please contact C W Lyons of Whitstable regarding the funeral arrangements.

WEBB
Joyce Marion Webb died peacefully on 21st May 2009. Funeral service at Barham Crematorium at 12.45 on 9th June.

WICKISON
Albert Wickison formerly Landlord of The White Swan, Platts Heath, died peacefully on the 26th May 2009. Cremation service at Charring Cremtorium on the 9th June at 1.20pm.

WILLIAMS
Leslie Arthur Victor passed away on the 22nd May 2009 aged 82. Dearly loved father of Eileen and Paul, Grandfather of Hope

WINTER
Hettie Florence Winter died peacefully on 24th May 2009 at Pilgrims Way Residential Home. Funeral service to be held at 10.15am on Tuesday 9th June 2009 at Vinters Park Crematorium.

Letters continued from page 41

Change voting system

Can I ask whether your newspaper is going to be making a constructive contribution to the political well-being of our country?

There are far too many journalists who are taking the easy road and channeling the view that if the public are unhappy with the current regime and the current parliamentary system let's flip over to another big party machine which will provide an incoming government with exactly the same licence to arrogance as we have had for 30 years.

There are reasons to be cheerful about our once-in-a-century opportunity to reform our democratic system and allow the fair-minded British electorate to choose its law-makers with a real multi-party system and an elected upper house that can't be packed with party stooges, oops, nominees.

Let's celebrate the number of MPs with integrity from all parties – by that I mean the hard-working MPs who are rated amongst those who have claimed the lowest levels of expenses. We have a number of them in east Kent, Gwyn Prosser, Michael Howard and Steve Ladyman. We voters are ready to step up to the plate and read up about the alternative forms of voting that could provide us with a Parliament of MPs whose political stances reflect better the range of political stances in the electorate. Like-minded readers may like to check out the websites www.unlockdemocracy.org.uk and www.makemyvotecount.org.uk.

We voters realise that with a slightly greater degree of proportionality in the system, we will have to weigh up how different parties propose to deal with the big challenges of the 21st century such as global recession and climate change and not be led astray by dangerous demagogues offering cozy dreams of a past that never was.

Baying for an early general election is nothing to do with wanting to 'clear the decks' or improve the system and everything to do with wanting to grab power under the old, winner takes all and never listens to the voters again, system.

Many of the people I have spoken to in my daily life are, like me, willing to push, petition, placard, plead and pester until we get a democratic system we don't have to be ashamed of. I hope that responsible media professionals feel able to raise their game and, over the next few months, play a constructive part in helping us explore the ways that things can be made a lot better than they are now.

Sarah Waite-Gleave
Deal

In it for themselves

One day a florist goes to a barber for a haircut. After the cut he asked about his bill and the barber replies, 'I cannot accept money from you. I'm doing community service this week.' The florist was pleased and left the shop.

When the barber goes to open his shop the next morning there is a 'thank you' card and a dozen roses waiting for him at his door.

Later, a cop comes in for a haircut, and when he tries to pay his bill, the barber again replies, 'I cannot accept money from you. I'm doing community service this week.' The cop is happy and leaves the shop.

The next morning when the barber goes to open up there is a 'thank you' card and a dozen donuts waiting for him at his door.

Later that day, a college professor comes in for a haircut, and when he tries to pay his bill, the barber again replies, 'I cannot accept money from you. I'm doing community service this week.' The professor is very happy and leaves the shop.

The next morning when the barber opens his shop, there is a 'thank you' card and a dozen different books, such as How to Improve Your Business, and Becoming More Successful.

Then, a Member of Parliament comes in for a haircut, and when he goes to pay his bill the barber again replies, 'I cannot accept money from you. I'm doing community service this week.' The Member of Parliament is very happy and leaves the shop.

The next morning when the barber goes to open up, there are a dozen Members of Parliament lined up waiting for a free haircut. And that, my friends, illustrates the fundamental difference between the citizens of our country and the Members of Parliament!

Anthony Sansum
By email

We're in a dictatorship

I'm afraid David Burgess (KoS, May 31) is in urgent need of a reality check.

The expenses scandal is nothing new, it's been going on for years. Last year, two MEPs between them 'accidentally' channelled over one million pounds into their own companies.

So the 'honest' MPs that Mr Burgess talks of have seen all this and just sat on their hands, as usual. If I saw somebody I knew commit a criminal act and did nothing, I would be guilty by association.

The rights for the Gurkhas were won by Joanna Lumley and a few other non-famous individuals. The MPs only jumped on the bandwagon once it had gained momentum, to gain public approval. Previously Gordon Brown et al, couldn't have given a damn.

The 'achievements' of the present government have been gained by throwing masses of public money, with no thought for value for money, at inefficient, badly run and top heavy institutions. Most of the money thrown at the NHS went on wages, with GPs getting over £100,000pa for a four-day week.

The building of new schools and hospitals has been done under the PFI (Private Finance Initiative) whereby the initiating government takes the credit and the following government pays the bills and takes the economic blame.

Due to the two party, 'buggin's turn', political system we have in this country and the fact the EU makes most of their decisions for them, our MPs have become lazy, arrogant and complacent.

Voters have had enough of being treated as useful only as election fodder and then being ignored, lied to and taken as fools. If our MPs are so hard working, how come they 'moonlight' on so many other jobs.

We need a radical sort out, to get rid of the self servers, the time servers and the egoists, so we can return our country to a democracy, instead of the usual elected dictatorship.

Phil Granger
West Malling

Wasting our money

I write with reference to Paul Carter, leader of Kent County Council, and his opportunistic political spin in relation to KCC monies and their investment in Icelandic banks.

On Wednesday, May 27, he was given the opportunity to talk on Radio Kent, and once again the issue of the £50 million investment of Kent taxpayers' money was raised.

Needless to say, he made sure he emphasised that the council is looking to secure "between 90 and 100 per cent" of our monies back from this ill-fated arrangement.

Mr Carter indicated that they had invested monies over one and two year contractual terms tying up the investment. However, other local authorities took the opportunity to remove their investments in a timely way thereby avoiding huge losses.

Kent County Council should have done the same irrespective of the 'contractual tie in' because the investment contract had been broken between KCC and the Icelandic bank when the bank could no longer meet their obligations.

Furthermore, what is not being conveniently mentioned is the further losses of interest that should have been paid on these monies. For example, interest at a typical 10 per cent over two years on a £50 million investment would total £10.5 million in interest payments. This amount, added to the potential loss of £5 million if they only recover 90 per cent of the original capital, would be a total loss in the region of £15.5 million. Naturally, Mr Carter wouldn't want us to be reminded of this fact.

Mr Carter should certainly not be using the potential recovery of this money as a good news story at a time of political scrutiny, afterall the money has not yet been returned and was originally lost "on his watch". I would suggest this is Mr Carter's way of trying to hoodwink the electorate to his own gain, bearing in mind the local elections.

On a similar subject of financial negligence, I would like to remind our Kent population of how Mr Carter is constantly trying to impress the media and the Kent electorate on how supportive he is meant to be towards Kent local business at such a difficult economic time. However, he continues a 'Judas' activity in setting up and maintaining KCC-owned companies in direct competition with local business. Namely Kent Top Temps Ltd, and now Kent County Facilities Ltd.

On examining Kent Top Temps Ltd published accounts as posted on the Companies House website, this company continues to

receive Kent taxpayers' money in the form of loans. I quote from the accounts submission: "In addition to this the Company has a loan from Kent County Council of £440,000 (2007: £310,000). This loan is repayable on demand and carries an interest rate of three per cent above Bank of England base rate. During the year the company was charged interest of £33,017 (2007: £18,049)."

Where would any typical business be able to secure a loan rate from a banking institution at three per cent above Bank of England base rate – hardly a level playing field? I find it somewhat quirky that these monies are "repayable on demand" – how can they be bearing in mind they are already our monies and should the company fail, this a further loss to the Kent taxpayer. I find it quite fantastic and indeed unethical that our local authority is propping up their own business with our monies at a time of serious recession with Kent companies folding and thus reducing the business rate income.

Furthermore, on examining the Kent County Facilities Ltd accounts, they are running at a deficit of £37,481. No doubt this organisation has the benefit of KCC loans too, and once again our monies are being used to fund KCC trading activity – but on this occasion operating at a loss.

With recent central government scandal around MP expenses and their financial negligence, Mr Carter has the audacity to denounce their behaviour, and yet he is guilty of squandering Kent taxpayers' monies by playing at running banks and businesses within KCC, to effect his own political ambition. He has many of his own businesses, so perhaps this is a time for him to step down and focus on them, instead of using taxpayers' monies to destroy local business.

Colin Randall
Tonbridge

Watch the police

Once again I'm astonished to see Kent Police investing in a military Herti spy drone. Aside from the no doubt absurd costs and waste of police time, but because Mark Gilmartin head of the Kent Police Authority confirmed under FOI in February, 2008, that the project was cancelled and a share in the Essex police helicopter taken instead.

And there are various reports of the British military not having enough spy drones (and flak jackets, gun sights and armoured cars) in Afghanistan.

Will Deputy Chief Constable Adrian Leppard advise as to why a Taliban-style spy plane is required for the wilds of Kent or do the Police simply not listen to the Kent Police Authority or public that five per cent council tax increases with less beat officers and more 'spy in the sky' technology makes sense?

Perhaps the spy drone should circle inside Kent Police budget meetings.

Tim Garbutt
Canterbury

Don't threaten schools

Cllr Wicks is deliberately distorting the facts when he claims the Labour government wants Medway council to close schools with surplus places.

The council's proposals are part of the primary capital programme which actually provides investment to improve primary schools in Medway not to close them. In fact the guidance about surplus places from the government says, "where the rationale for the closure of schools is based on the removal of surplus places, standards at the schools in question should be taken into account."

The truth is that Cllr Wicks and his Conservative colleagues are the only ones wanting to close schools in Medway as three of the threatened schools, St Johns, St Peters and St Nicholas have Good Ofsted reports and should not be considered for closure according to the government guidance.

The fourth school, Ridge Meadow, is regarded as satisfactory and improving and should not be considered for closure because of its good standards either. The school suffered a period of decline and uncertainty following the previous closure proposal by Cllr Wicks and his Tory colleagues and is now doing very well.

The Conservatives in Medway have not followed government guidelines in applying for their capital programme so they blame anyone they can for their own shortcomings while children, parents and staff suffer the anxiety of facing possible school closure.

It is clear from reading the guidance from the government about surplus places that the schools threatened with closure by Medway Tories, should not be considered for closure. So if Cllr Wicks and the Tories really do oppose the closure of good schools, why did he make the proposals in the first place?

If Medway Council's ruling Conservatives want to be taken seriously, they should withdraw their threat to close good schools.

Cllr Bill Esterson
Labour Group Spokesman Childrens Services

Support is available

We, at the Meningitis Trust, were saddened to hear about the couple who jumped to their death because they were left devastated by the death of their son, who lost his life to meningitis.

We are constantly reminded how devastating meningitis can be; changing people's lives in an instant. Survivors can face a future with devastating after-effects, families can face a future without a loved one.

Everyday we work with people who are struggling to cope with the impact of meningitis. We see first-hand the trauma that the disease can cause to an individual, their family and even a whole community.

We are here to offer support and information to anyone affected by the disease and we don't want people to suffer in silence.

For many, the suddenness of the disease and the speed with which it develops, is both shocking and overwhelming – with families left feeling stunned and traumatised, sometimes in a matter of hours.

We offer a free, confidential helpline, 0800 028 18 28, which is available 24-hours a day and manned by specially trained nurses. It is also the gateway to our free professional support services – providing anyone affected by the disease with support when they need it, for as long as they need it.

We would urge anyone who has been affected by meningitis to get in touch – people shouldn't suffer in silence.

Sue Davie
Chief Executive
Meningitis Trust

Help with your child

I wanted to let your readers know about a fantastic opportunity to find out about the benefits of using registered childcare providers that are based in the home.

This month I will be celebrating National Childminding Week from June 13-20 with the other 45,000 members of the National Childminding Association. The week, which has the theme Home From Home, will see childminders and nannies holding events in your area to highlight the work they do to support children and families locally.

Research shows that young children benefit from the personalised care and attention a childminder or nanny can provide in the home. As part of National Childminding Week childminders and nannies will be visiting local schools, children's centres, drop-in groups and community groups to tell as many parents as possible about this fantastic childcare choice.

A recent survey from NCMA found that the satisfaction level in parents using registered childminders is very high, so if you are thinking about childcare options, or would like more information visit www.ncma.org.uk.

Susanna Dawson
Registered Childminder and Chair of National Childminding Association

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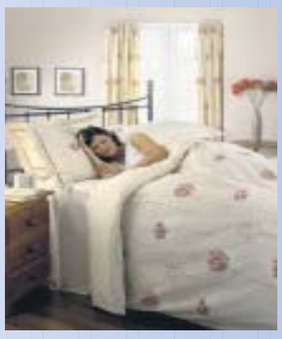

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Employers given extra cash boost for apprenticeships

A TRAINING provider in the South East will now be able to offer selected employers extra money for taking on apprentices.

Under the Government's apprenticeship expansion scheme, companies could receive £30 per week for every extra apprentice they employ if they qualify.

Denis Hird, training provider JTL's chief executive, said: "We work with employers in the South East with a terrific track record in training up young people, and winning this contract reflects the Government's confidence in JTL's expertise in delivering advanced apprenticeships in the building services industry.

"Initiatives like this are very welcome – everyone knows someone who is suffering in the present climate, but if employers do not take a long-term view they will not have the skilled staff available to undertake future projects."

The scheme will be targeted at JTL employers with an "excellent proven track record" in apprenticeships and who need support during the downturn to expand the number they offer.

Mr Hird said: "The £30 subsidy will be paid for 12 months and payment is made to the employer upon receipt of the attendance record indicating the apprentice has been present or authorised absent."

Despite the economic downturn, the Government is concerned the UK still faces a major shortage of skills in the next decade if employers do not take on apprentices.

John Denham, the Skills Secretary, said: "The businesses we have signed agreements with will be able to train more apprentices, thanks to the £11 million of funding.

"In these tough times we are determined to do all we can to support business to prepare for the upturn and continue to invest in improving the skills of the nation's workforce."

Partnership will see cutting edge training for NHS

A KENT university has joined forces with a hospital trust to offer surgeons a unique qualification in keyhole surgery.

By **JENNA PUDLEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

The University of Kent's centre for work and leaning, which is based at its Medway campus, will be working with Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust to provide the new Master's degree in laparoscopic surgery.

Cathy Hull, head of the centre, said: "The MSc will be an exciting addition to the range of programmes we offer in healthcare and clinical practice.

"Our partnership will be invaluable in helping staff across the whole of the trust develop their skills at undergraduate and postgraduate level.

"Our aim is to help create a culture of learning for health professionals."

The Masters, which is set to be launched in October this year, marks a new relationship between the university and the trust.

The partnership was formalised after a 'memorandum of understanding' was signed by the two organisations.

She said the memorandum sets out a commitment to develop professional healthcare education in Kent and to share skills, knowledge, facilities and research findings. It aims to improve standards of patient care.

Incisions

The trust's chief executive Glenn Douglas said: "Developments in minimally invasive surgery at the trust are of local, national and international importance.

"Our partnership with the university is a sign of the skills we have at the trust, and an indication of the standards we are aspiring to achieve within the NHS for our staff and patients alike. We are a county that can be proud of its academic achievements and advances in patient care."

Laparoscopic surgery is also known as minimally invasive or keyhole surgery.

It is a surgical technique involving tiny incisions being made in the patient to create a passageway to insert an instrument called a laparoscope.

The thin, telescope-like instrument has a miniature video camera at the end, which transmits images to a video monitor. The surgeon uses this while performing the procedure using small instruments that pass through small tubes placed in the incisions.

Benefits to patients include less pain and scarring compared to conventional surgery, and quicker recovery times and reduced hospitals stays.

The trust unveiled its state-of-the-art laparoscopic theatre at Maidstone Hospital on May 1, and surgeons from around the world are expected to study at its new International Laparoscopic Training Centre.

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TRAINED: Members of The Gundog Club near Westerham

TRAINING courses to turn people's pet hounds into gundogs are growing in popularity in Kent.

The Gundog Club, which runs graded courses in Westerham, near Sevenoaks, said the next beginners' course in June is already fully booked.

Four students were set to start their grade-three course at the centre last week, including Caro Rowley with labrador Barney and Christine Burgess with her labrador bitch Magic.

The dogs and their owners had already passed their grade-two test in March, under the expert guidance of gundog instructor Tony Casserly.

For more information go to www.the-gundogclub.co.uk.

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Communications Coordinator

Working 2 days per week - £22,000 (pro rata) for a fixed term until May 2011. Based initially in Sittingbourne.
You will work with the website coordinator and the website development company to support the growth and development of the website. You will research and write content for the website which will be relevant to the VCS in Kent. You will need to have as a minimum, knowledge of web development and data base management. You will help develop Kent CAN's presence and profile in a variety of media platforms.

For an application pack, please email ***communications@kentcan.org*** or you may download a pack online by visiting the KentCAN website ***www.kentcan.org***

For an informal chat about the role, call Keith Morris, Chief Executive on 01795 424333.
Application closing date: 22.06.09

Charity no. 1102877 - Company no.4523186

LOTTERY FUNDED

FG Barnes (Maidstone) Ltd

Vauxhall & Chevrolet Retailer

- **Retail Car Sales Consultants**
- **B2B Sales Consultants**
- **Commercial Vehicle Specialist**
- **Finance & Insurance Business Manager**

The introduction of the Government backed scrappage scheme has been a tremendous success here at FG Barnes (Maidstone) who is part of the Barnes Group, a family owned motor dealer group based in South East. We are now looking for experienced sales professionals to join our busy sales team.
As part of the Vauxhall & Chevrolet Dealer network committed to quality through innovation we offer an attractive salary structure, exciting career opportunities and a secure future. If you are ambitious and want to join a retailer aspiring to become the market leader in the area through customer satisfaction, then please write to us with your career history and current salary including bonus and benefit details to; *General Manager, FG Barnes (Maidstone) Ltd, Sutton Road, Park Wood, Maidstone ME15 9YF.*

Email: enquiries@fgbarnes.co.uk

VAUXHALL

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YOUR MOVE

Sales Consultants Medway

The market is turning, an excellent time to get into Estate Agency.

Your Move is one of the largest estate agents in the UK. We are looking for energetic, enthusiastic ambitious individuals to join our Medway team. Office based you will register buyers, sellers, arrange viewings, negotiate offers and deal with all other aspects of the property industry. We reward progression to our top performing staff. In house training, paid holiday, basic and commission.

The job is five days a week, including weekend work.

You will need customer service/sales experience, full driving licence and the ability to work to targets whilst delivering the very best customer service.

For more information contact: joe.jenkins@your-move.co.uk, Your Move, 171 High Street, Rochester, ME1 1EH.

Join Kent's award-winning design studio

Designer/Visualiser
Part-time/Full-time

An opportunity has arisen for a creative, self motivated team player who is able to work under pressure to deadline, to join our busy studio department.

You will be expected to have an eye-for-detail and produce innovative visual ideas for new and exsisting clients, along with having the speed and creative edge to design and produce quality finished artwork for our in-house marketing material and online products.

You will need the relevant mac experience with an in-depth knowledge of QuarkXPress, Photoshop and Illustrator. You will also be expected to be flexible within your working hours.

To apply for this position, please send your CV and covering letter, with two examples from your portfolio to:

Anna Harman, Studio Manager, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

Or email: anna.harman@kosmedia.co.uk

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WESTKENT

★★★

Residential Caretaker – Sevenoaks
Plus rent free accommodation. Job Ref KOS/BOS003

Spot salary £18,092
37 hrs pw split shift

West Kent is a top performing housing association providing excellent homes and services across Kent. We are a Sunday Times Top 100 employer and were recently accredited with the Customer Service Excellence Award and are now looking for a residential caretaker who can help our staff, look after our tenants and maintain excellent customer service.

- Can you be relied on to get the job done?
- Could you be cutting the grass one minute and rescuing someone from a lift the next?
- Do you have commercial cleaning and general maintenance skills?
- Are you health and safety conscious, able to work at heights and move heavy objects?

If you can say yes to all the above and are able to use your own initiative, supervise a cleaner, support others and are customer focused, then this could be the job for you. You will need to be able to work a split shift starting at 7:30am. This post offers excellent benefits and rent free accommodation in Sevenoaks town centre, in order to enable you to respond to office security issues and emergencies, including some out of office hours.

For more information and to download an application pack, please visit our website or call Sue Ludbrook on 01732 749431.

Closing date: 19 June 2009. Interview date: 6 July 2009

West Kent Housing Association aims to provide equality and opportunity for all we house and employ

View our current vacancies online at www.westkent.org

Alzheimer's & Dementia
SUPPORT SERVICES

Registered Charity Number 1024385

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
£30,000-£32,000p.a. (depending on experience), plus essential car users allowance

Alzheimer's & Dementia Support Services (ADSS) seek a CEO to succeed the current post holder who is retiring. ADSS an independent charity, is the lead provider of practical and emotional support to people with dementia and their carers' in North West Kent and is well regarded by those who use the service and its funders.

The role is wide ranging and requires an understanding of dementia and its impact on individuals and their families. You will need a sound knowledge of charity and employment law and financial management, an ability to lead a dedicated team with a commitment to drive the charity forward.

This is a full time post 37 hours per week with some unsocial hours.
Start date Oct/Nov 2009

To request a postal application pack either
Tel: 01 474 533990 or email adminadss@btconnect.com by 19th June 2009

To advertise in this section 01303 817040

KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors.

BASED FAVERSHAM

Executive Assistant – Development & Marketing
£18,937- £23,473 • 37 HOURS PER WEEK

As part of a dynamic and driven team, your role will be central to the development process: preparing, producing, proof-reading and collating tender documentation and presentations. You will also gather information, coordinate tender timetables and create and manage a development database. You will be involved in marketing KCA by helping produce and coordinate marketing activity, managing the sign-off process and helping with invoicing.

You will also provide general support: drafting and producing a wide range of correspondence, arranging meetings, managing diaries, maintaining files and records, managing messages and acting as the first point of contact to all callers and visitors to the team.

To thrive in this role you will need exceptional written and verbal communication skills and the ability to use Microsoft Word and PowerPoint to create well set-out and engaging documents and presentations. Attention to detail, excellent proof-reading ability and good time and deadline management are essential. You will possess strong interpersonal and influencing skills, be flexible, proactive and forward-thinking, creative about gaining information, professional and remain calm under pressure. Ref: 522.

Should you wish to discuss the role informally, please call Karen Tyrell, Assistant Director of Development on 01795 590635 on Mon/Tue/Wed during weeks commencing 1 and 8 June.

Database/Administrative Assistant – Human Resources
£16,663 - £18,937 • 37 HOURS PER WEEK

This new post has been created to make maximum use of our HR database at a time of continued organisational expansion. The role offers you the opportunity to become the departmental 'expert' in all matters relating to the database ('Insight' from Select Software) and ensure that it plays a full part in providing an efficient service to both our internal customers and the commissioners of our services. In addition to the input of data, you will regularly generate reports and audit the system for accuracy. You will also provide administrative services to the HR team (e.g. filing, typing and photocopying) particularly during peak recruitment periods.

You will need to be a perfectionist by nature in order to ensure data accuracy and have a positive solution focused outlook to work. In addition to excellent general IT skills, you will need to have substantial experience in at least one database application, preferably with a qualification related to database work. Formal training on our database will be provided as part of your induction. Ref: 575.

Should you wish to discuss the role informally, please call Peter Gallagher, Director of Human Resources & Estates on 01795 590635 between 9.00am and 12.00pm on 2, 5 or 8 June.

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from http://www.kca.org.uk/pages/vacancies.html or email recruitment@kca.org.uk Alternatively, write to KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT or call 01795 590635. Please quote the appropriate reference number.

Closing date: Monday 15 June.
Interview date: Tuesday 30 June.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity No: 292824.

www.kca.org.uk

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

K·C·A
Services in the Community

ST WERBURGH MEDICAL PRACTICE
98 Bells Lane, Hoo, Rochester, Kent, ME3 9HU
Tel: 01634 250523

PART-TIME EXPERIENCED DISPENSER WITH RECEPTIONIST SKILLS REQUIRED

GP Dispensing Practice 20 hours per week Mon-Fri, NVQ level 2 qualification in dispensing essential. Must be able to work without supervision and have own transport.
Must be willing to cover holidays and sickness.

Closing date: 19 June 2009

Contact: Mrs Julie Allen – Julie.allen@nhs.net

Nicholas James Care Homes Ltd,
Head Office, Dale Road, Southfleet, Kent DA13 9NX

REGISTERED NURSES LEVEL 1
Required by the above company for a nursing home Near Canterbury. Full and Part Time positions available.
For details please contact:
Pauline Matthews, Manager – Tel 01227 458116
Email: managerharbledown@njch.co.uk

ALSO REQUIRED – ASSISTANT MANAGER EASTFIELD RESIDENTIAL HOME, MAIDSTONE
Minimum qualification NVQ111 with preferred experience in Dementia Care. Salary negotiable.
For details contact:
Tina Thomas – Mob 07707038230
Email: Tina.Thomas@njch.co.uk

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Children's Club Leaders & Character Performer
Required for Dover–Calais Ferry contracts.
Must be available to work 5 days per week, weekends included and have accommodation in the Dover area.
Applicants will be subject to a CRB disclosure.

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Our core values are
Compassion, Excellence and Reliability
We also provide staff to Nursing Homes and Private Hospitals

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If you are over 18 years of age and are eligible to undertake paid work in the UK
Call Julie Epsley on: 01732 523442
or email: info@bayada.co.uk

Glendale Appointment

Glendale

Coblands Nurseries Ltd

Seasonal Temporary Nursery Assistants

Based at Tonbridge • £5.75 per hour

This position is available on a temporary basis for immediate start until the end of July 2009.
The successful candidate will be required to work 5 days a week.
This role will involve potting, weeding and general maintenance of a wide range of container grown stock along with preparing plants ready for customer orders.
The ideal candidate will work well as part of a team, be self-motivated and have a positive outlook on life.
If you feel you have the necessary skills for this position, please send your CV and letter of application to Jo Dury, Coblands Nurseries, Trench Road, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 9NG or email Jo.dury@best4plants.co.uk
Closing date; - 9th June 2009 www.best4plants.co.uk
Glendale is an equal opportunities employer

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£50-£300 per week

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Lettings Negotiator/Administrator required for busy Cliftonville office.

Must be enthusiastic, motivated and offer excellent customer service. Own car and previous experience are essential. Good rates of pay offered for the successful candidate. Please send CV to

paul.gibbs@fst-lettings.co.uk 01843 234160

Business Editor

If you know the difference between a management buy in and a management buy out, and can explain what the current economic turmoil means to the businesses of Kent, this may be the job for you.

KOS Media is looking for a business correspondent to make their mark in our weekend titles of Kent on Saturday and Kent on Sunday.

You will have journalism experience, ideally in business reporting, and will be able to produce top-notch copy under pressure.

Send your CV and a covering letter to **ian.patel@kosmedia.co.uk**.

The closing date is June 26, 2009

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Benecare is looking for a

FOSTERING MANAGER

with Developmental experience who can take our OFSTED Registered Fostering Agency into the next stage of our Strategic plan.

Based in Kent we now intend to take our service provision closer to London authorities and to adjacent counties.

Our new additional office will be based in Northern Kent / London Borders and it will be part of the successful candidates' job to help set this up.

For a full discussion of the role and expectations, terms, and generous performance reward provisions please contact **Steve Richmond** Managing Director On: Office **01892 740886** Mobile **07710 145802**

Safe & Sound Control Systems Limited

Due to continued success and expansion we have two immediate opportunities to join our friendly, dynamic and pro-active team.

BMS COMMISSIONING ENGINEER

The following are minimum pre-requisites :-

Been employed as a Commissioning Engineer with at least 3 years on site experience
Full certified Trend training (IQ2, IQ3, and 963)
Experience of commissioning networked BMS systems

Involves writing strategies, testing, pre-commissioning of software and control panels, commissioning completed installations and demonstration to the end user. Ability to trouble shoot, fault find and modify control panels is a must.

PROJECTS MANAGER

The following are minimum pre-requisites :-

Been employed as a Projects Manager with at least 3 years relevant experience
Able to coordinate and manage site installation activities including sub-contractors
Experience of networked BMS systems
Ability to manage all aspects of a project including budget and cost control reporting to Director level

Both roles require travel throughout the South East, a good grounding in electronics and/or electrical installation with a working knowledge of wiring regulations and health & safety.

You will be highly motivated and flexible with a positive attitude and the ability to work on own initiative, a clean driving license and CSCS card.

CV's can be emailed to **recruitment@safeandsoundcontrols.com** or posted to
Unit 22 Chislet Close, Lakesview International Business Park, Canterbury, Kent CT3 4LB

Public Sector

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THE THOMAS AVELING SCHOOL

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

(A Foundation Technology College)
Arethusa Rd, Rochester, Kent ME1 2UW Headteacher: Mr P Jackson, BSc
Tel: 01634 844809 Fax: 01634 818385
Email: office@thomasaveling.co.uk Website: www.thomasaveling.co.uk/jobs

ATTENDANCE OFFICER

Term Time only - 30-37 hours per week (negotiable)
Salary: pro rata on the NJC Pay Scale Grade D2 Point 12-21 – (currently £14,847-£18,882 fte)

We seek an experienced clerical support worker to take over the duties of Student Attendance Officer as soon as possible.

Tasks include recording and monitoring attendance of students, providing information for management and completion of returns for local and central Government. The successful candidate will have excellent interpersonal and communication skills and sound administrative/ICT capability.

- Job description and application form available on the school website
- Please contact the school to request an informal visit if required

Please send your letter of application & CV, together with Application Form (available on school website) to: Mr S Rayner, Finance & Business Manager, to the above address.
Closing date: Friday 19th June 2009

The Thomas Aveling School is an equal opportunities employer - committed to safeguarding the welfare of all students and an enhanced CRB check will be required for the successful applicant.

Greenacre School

A Specialist Sports College.
157 Walderslade Road, CHATHAM, Kent Tel: 01634-861593 Fax: 01634-869246
Email: office@greenacre.medway.sch.uk www.greenacre.medway.sch.uk

Age range: 11-18 years
Number on roll in Years 7-11 = 806
Number on roll in mixed Sixth Form = 217

"The school's specialist status makes a considerable contribution to the whole school and local community. It has enhanced the school's focus on enjoyment and health as well as developing core elements of sport, such as the importance of discipline and teamwork, across the school" (OFSTED January 2008).

Teacher of PE

Salary: Negotiable. Required for 1 September 2009

Greenacre School is a boys high school with a mixed Sixth Form following a full range of academic and vocational courses. As a Sports College, Physical Education is a key influence in the future development of the school.

We can offer:

- A laptop
- Outstanding resources
- Improved KS3, GCSE and A Level results year on year.

For further information and an application form please contact Mr. A J Reese, Headteacher, or download an application form from the school website. Informal visits are most welcome.
Closing date for applications is 21st June 2009

DOVER COLLEGE

Co-educational Day and Boarding School
Required for September 2009

EFL

Part time or Full time

Applications are invited from suitably qualified EFL specialists to join the International Department at Dover College

Applications, with further details of the post are available from; Mrs Debra Kilvington, PA to Headmaster. Dover College, Effingham Crescent, Dover. Kent. CT17 9RH

Tel: 01304 205969 ext. 201
Email: hm.pa@dovercollege.org.uk
www.dovercollege.org.uk

Dover College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.
Dover College: Registered Charity Number 307856

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MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Programme Area Leader in Beauty — Ref: PAL01

Salary: £30,204- £33,935 per annum

We are looking to recruit an exceptional candidate to provide support to the Head of School on all Staffing, Student, Curriculum and Quality issues. The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate a significant level of competence in Teaching and Learning, have experience of action planning and have good negotiating/communication skills. The post holder will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Foundation Programmes — Ref: P0567

Salary: £25,895- £29,622 per annum

We are looking to recruit an outstanding individual to teach and participate in the development of the Life and Work Skills for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. The successful candidate will have good communication skills, a patient and mature attitude and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Health and Social Care — Ref: P0063

Salary: £25,895- £29,622 per annum

We are looking for a passionate candidate to be involved in the delivery of edexcel Healthcare programmes. The successful candidate will have proven knowledge and experience within Healthcare environments and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Media — Ref: P0354

Salary: £25,895- £29,622 per annum

The successful candidate will teach on Media programmes, providing programme management and curriculum tutorial support as required. A Degree or HND in a Media Discipline and a creative attitude coupled with excellent communication skills is essential. The post holder will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Animal Care — Ref: P0355

Salary: £20,700- £25,309 per annum

The primary role of the post holder will be to teach on and participate in the development of a range and levels of Animal Care courses. Courses are offered from Entry Level to Level Three. The Higher Diploma Environment and Land Based will start in September. A relevant qualification in Animal Care and previous experience is essential and the successful candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Equine experience would be welcomed, though not essential. Animal care is a vibrant department and all courses are popular and oversubscribed.

Lecturer in IT – Level 1 — Ref: P0395

Salary: £25,895- £29,622 per annum

We wish to appoint a lecturer in Information Technology to teach across a range of BTEC and Diploma programmes to post 16 students at our Medway, Gillingham campus, especially at level 1 and including Functional Skills. They must either have or be prepared to undergo training for a teaching qualification and be able to manage and coordinate a team to provide and develop a coherent programme of study suitable for these levels of student.

Lecturer in IT – Level 2 and 3 — Ref: P0366

Salary: £25,895- £29,622 per annum

We wish to appoint a lecturer in Information Technology to teach across a range of BTEC and Diploma programmes to post 16 students at our Medway, Gillingham campus at level 2 and level 3. They must either have or be prepared to undergo training for a teaching qualification and be able to manage and coordinate a team to provide and develop a coherent programme of study suitable for these levels of student. They must also be prepared to teach Functional Skills at level 2.

Technician in Hair — Ref: P0296

Salary: £13,544 - £16,392 per annum

The ideal candidate will be able to provide technical support to staff and students and will be responsible for setting-up and providing classroom support. Experience in the industry would be advantageous.

Technician in Building and Civil Engineering — Ref: P0149

Salary: £15,607 - £19,127 per annum

The primary role of the post holder will be to carry out technician duties, assist tutors and learners in all practical aspects of construction and perform other technician work across the school.

Closing date – Wednesday 17 June

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and anyone applying for work with the College isexpected to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer

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Teachers wanted

Local Teachers for Local Schools

We have 100's of permanent positions throughout Kent for qualified teachers, teaching assistants and school support staff.

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(A Foundation Technology College)

Arethusa Rd, Rochester, Kent ME1 2UW Headteacher: Mr P Jackson, BSc

Tel: 01634 844809 Fax: 01634 818385

Email: office@thomasaveling.co.uk Website: www.thomasaveling.co.uk/jobs

EXAMINATION SECRETARY

Term Time only - 24 hours per week (hours/days to be agreed)
Some flexibility of actual working hours may be required
Salary: pro-rata on the NJC Pay Scale Grade D2 point 12-21 – (currently £14,847 - £18,882 fte)

A rewarding opportunity has arisen for a pro-active, organised and self-motivated person to provide primary support for our examinations officer. This will involve preparation of seating plans, organising exam materials and coordinating student entry requirements and exam board queries, and will therefore necessitate dealings with both internal and external bodies. Particularly during the busy primary examination periods during the year some flexibility in working times would be an advantage.

This role has a dual function which at other times during the year will require the post-holder to provide support for general admin as necessary.

Please send your letter of application & CV, together with Application Form (available on the school website) to: Mr S Rayner, Finance and Business Manager, to the above address.

Closing date: Friday 19th June 2009

The Thomas Aveling School is an equal opportunities employer - committed to safeguarding the welfare of all students and an enhanced CRB check will be required for the successful applicant.

TERM TIME TEACHERS

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Are you an experienced Teacher, NQT or TA looking for local work to suit you?

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Kent County Council

Public Rights Of Way Officer: Network Management

£20,262 - £30,219 per annum, pro rata (Salary dependent on experience and progression through the Career Grade is based on the fulfillment of required competencies)

22 hours per week

With over 6700km of public rights of way, Kent County Council manages the largest network in the country. It also has an excellent national reputation in service delivery and forward thinking, dynamic new initiatives. The Countryside Access Service is looking for a new officer to join them to deliver the day to day maintenance requirements for the network in the Dartford and Gravesham District.

You will respond to a wide variety of reported problems, received by letter, telephone and email; plan, tender and manage works by contractors and advise on the impact of planning proposal on the network.

The post carries a high-volume workload so will need to be able to juggle numerous competing priorities and adapt readily to the use of technology. A team player with excellent inter-personal and communication skills, you will have a high level of motivation, a good knowledge of rights of way law and practice and excellent organisational skills.

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs Alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247 904. Please quote reference ER/09/0048.

Closing date: Midday, 15th June 2009.

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Laleham Gap School

Laleham Gap caters for pupils from 3-16 and is the county's leading provision for pupils with speech, language and communication difficulties.

Required for September 2009:

Receptionist needed at our Primary School in Broadstairs

28.5 hours per week term-time (8.30 – 1.45 Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri and 8.30 – 4.30 Wed)

Kent Scheme Band 3 - £14,099 - £15,984 pro rata

We are looking for someone to provide receptionist and clerical support at our Primary School in Broadstairs. Duties will include reception duties, word processing, filing, photocopying, answering telephone and email queries.

You will need to have up-to-date knowledge of word processing packages and good interpersonal skills. Knowledge of SIMS.Net software would be advantageous.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the young people in its care and all posts are subject to an enhanced CRB disclosure.

Closing Date is 22 June 2009.

Please send an A4 sized SAE (with 61p stamp) for an application pack to: Brenda Fallon, Laleham Gap School, 1 South Cliff Parade, Broadstairs, CT10 1TJ

E-mail: office@laleham-gap.kent.sch.uk

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Career Opportunities

Canterbury College

Canterbury College is an equal opportunities employer

Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M Campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

Coordinator Early Years **09/18**
37 hours per week, salary starting at £27,209 per annum

Coordinator Music and Music Technology Level 3 **CO22**
37 hours per week, salary starting at £27,209 per annum

Lecturer Health & Social Care **L90**
18.5 hours per week salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum

Lecturer Science **09/15**
37 or 2 x 18.5 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum (pro rata for part time posts)

Lecturer Graphic Design **09/21**
37 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum

Work Experience Placement Officer **09/16**
37 hours per week, 38 weeks per year term time, salary starting at £16,914 pro rata per annum. One year fixed term post

Central Administrator ***09/12***
27 hours per week, salary starting at £15,085 pro rata per annum

Apprenticeship Administration Assistant – European Social Fund and Projects ***09/19***
Full time Apprenticeship, salary £95 per week.
Fixed Term post for the duration of the Apprenticeship

Night Cleaners ***09/22***
5 posts, 20 hours each per week, salary £6.42 per hour. Temporary posts to cover maternity leave not to exceed 12 months

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 22th June 2009 at 12 noon

For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.

Staff benefits include:

- *Pension & Life Assurance Scheme*
- *Proximity to main bus & train stations*
- *Close to City Centre*
- *Sports Hall & Gym*
- *Generous Holiday Allowance*
- *Staff Discount Scheme*

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01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone)

St John's
Catholic Comprehensive

Rochester Road, Gravesend, Kent DA12 2JW

Specialist Arts College

St John's is being fully rebuilt as part of the Kent Building Schools for the Future initiative. Building work is now under way. We are seeking support staff in the following roles for September 2009 to help us develop before the school moves to the new premises in 2010.

SIMS Co-ordinator:
KS Band 7, Points 20 - 24 | £ 18,263.52 pro rata | 37 hr/week, 42 weeks per year

We are looking for an experienced database co-ordinator to maintain and update the school SIMS database. The successful candidate will be responsible for data integrity and input, and organising data upgrades. They will also need to maintain the school timetable and prepare reports for the Senior Leadership Team and the Governors. Experience of working in a school is desirable and excellent ICT skills and accuracy are essential. This is a new and exciting role which will be tailored to meet the demands of the changing school environment.

Pastoral Manager:
KS Band 6, Points 17-20 | £15,586.44 pro rata | 37 hr/week, 39 weeks per year

A flexible, enthusiastic and motivated person is required to support Community Co-ordinators in the welfare and day-to-day management of students in their communities. Experience of working with young people is desirable and ability to manage workload effectively is essential. A First Aid qualification is desirable.

Community Admin Assistant:
KS Band 4, Points 11 - 14 | £13,758.36 pro rata | 37 hr/week, 40 weeks per year

An enthusiastic and reliable person is required to work as administrative support for a Community (approximately 400 students). The successful candidate will be required to input student data, log attendance and behaviour, be first contact point for student medical assistance and provide admin support. Identification and resolution of student issues will be a key part of the job. Excellent English, Maths, communication and organisational skills are required. The successful candidate must have a First Aid qualification or be prepared to take the necessary course to obtain one.

Receptionist: (part-time)
KS Band 3, Point 7 - 11 | £8,221.32 pro-rata | 25 hr/week, 40 weeks per year

A professional and efficient person is required to work in our reception area. The successful candidate will be the first point of contact for telephone enquires and will be responsible for visitors, telephone messages and post distribution and despatch. Handling student enquiries is a key part of the role. Excellent customer service and communication skills are essential. The successful candidate must have a First Aid qualification or be prepared to take the necessary course to obtain one.

Please contact the school on **01474 534718** or e-mail **office@st-johns-gravesend.kent.sch.uk** for an application pack. Job descriptions and application forms can also be downloaded from our website: **www.st-johns-gravesend.kent.sch.uk**

CAREERS IN HEALTHCARE ACROSS EAST KENT

NHS
Eastern and Coastal Kent

From Whitstable to Dover, Ashford to Canterbury, over 710,000 people depend on Eastern and Coastal Kent. We work hard to improve health and wellbeing, to tackle health inequalities and to provide high quality, responsive and efficient services.

As one of Kent's largest employers, we aim to have a world-class workforce. Invest your skills in us and we'll invest in you with personalised career development, flexible working, childcare, final salary pension scheme and many other valuable benefits.

School Nurse Practice Teacher (*) (🚗)

Band 7 £29,789 to £39,273 per annum if a qualified Practice Teacher or if willing to undertake Practice Teacher course Band 6 £24,831 to £ 33,436 per annum until qualified

Temple Ward, St Martins Hospital, Canterbury

We are looking for a qualified School Nurse Practice Teacher to work in the Canterbury Team and help drive the increase in qualified school nurses. You will be joining a proactive skill mix team working towards integration with health visiting to provide a seamless service to children and families in our locality. We work within the Eastern and Coastal Kent Framework for School Nursing.

If you are keen to shape the development of school nursing through promoting the education and training of qualified school nurses and are also interested in developing services which respond to the needs of the school years population and their families, then we would love to hear from you.

We would be prepared to consider a suitably qualified school nurse who is prepared to undertake the Practice Teacher course

Excellent communication skills, a forward thinking approach and commitment to team working are crucial.

It is recommended that you phone the teams for an informal discussion and they will be very happy to facilitate an informal visit. Please contact Chris Beer on 01227 812280 or Susan Gough, Locality Clinical Co-ordinator on 01843 855487.

A comprehensive corporate induction programme is provided at the commencement of employment.

Please ensure that you check your NHS Jobs account regularly in order to see if you have been successful in obtaining an interview.

(*) Employment in this post is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau

(🚗) Car owner/driver essential, subject to the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act (1995)

For further information and to apply, please visit
www.easternandcoastalkent.nhs.uk

Completed applications by: 21 June 2009.

We are an equal opportunities employer committed to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults

BRADSTOW SCHOOL

Bradstow is a fascinating and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children with autism and severe learning difficulties, and have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management.

34 Dumpton Park Drive
Broadstairs, Kent
CT10 1BY

All appointments are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure CRB check

All shortlisted applicants will be expected to visit the school before interview.

Bradstow School is an equal opportunities employer

In addition to salary, the benefits package includes Benenden membership.

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

HOUSE MANAGER - CHILDCARE

£26,067 - £28,172 per annum - 41 hours per week, (including split shifts and weekends) – Term time only

HOUSEPARENT - CHILDCARE

£15,217- £17,233 per annum - 33 hours per week (including split shifts and weekends) – Term time only

Working as part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends

Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, Friday 19th June 2009.

SENIOR CLASSROOM SUPPORT ASSISTANT

£13,063 - £14,205 (plus one hour of contractual overtime weekly) per annum - 36 hours per week– Term time only

The Senior Class Support Assistant will be prime support for teachers in a class, following pre-set work and behaviour programmes, and acting as the second in charge of the class team, leading and mentoring junior colleagues as and when appropriate.

Please note that the successful applicant will also be required to work on one Saturday per term, for which overtime will be paid.

Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, Thursday 2nd July 2009.

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANTS

The successful applicants will be responsible for assisting teachers in the school and have a particular responsibility towards one teaching group.

TEAM SUPPORT WORKER – EDUCATION

£12,496 per annum - 37_ hours per week, 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.Mon-Fri - Term time only

Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, Friday 19th June 2009.

For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children.

For an application form and information pack please call 01843 608727 **(24 hour recruitment answer machine)** or email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk.
Please note that CV's will not be considered.

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A selection of the 100s of Local Jobs online

Administration, Secretarial, PA

PROJECT WORKER/ ADMIN SUPPORT

Chatham
Salary: £21,584
Closing Date: 8 June 09
Nacro is the principal crime reduction charity in England and Wales. It works to reduce crime by delivering a range of socially inclusive crime prevention initiatives by working for a fair and effective criminal justice system and by resettling offenders. Nacro Services in Kent and Medway offers vocational and skills training to young people aged 14-19years/ adult learners and those who wish to improve their literacy and numeracy. Our aim is to motivate raise selfesteem and increase self confidence through effective training and skills development to progress our learners into education, training or employment. As our provision extends we are looking for lively, self motivated individuals who enjoy the challenge of working with people of all ages but, in particular, young people. We have the following vacancies: TEAM LEADER (PUBLIC SERVICES/OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES) £21,584 (Inc Labour Market Uplift) We are looking for a motivated individual to develop and deliver a public services/outdoor activities course primarily through our e2e Programme. You will possess the appropriate skills to engage young people in sport and physical activity to increase their participation and progression. You will be experienced in using imaginative new techniques to ensure take up of the course. The post will be based at our Chatham Centre. PROJECT WORKER/ADMIN SUPPORT £21,584 (Inc Labour Market Uplift) We are looking for a motivated individual to work with the Construction Development Officer and team providing administration and also liaising with referring agencies, work experience placements and funding bodies. You need to have excellent administration and communication skills. Closing date for all the above posts is 8 June 2009 with interviews being held week commencing 15 June 2009. Contact Colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk or call on 01634 818305 for an application pack. Nacro is an equal opportunities employer and aims to eliminate unfair discrimination in its selection process. Nacro is a registered Charity No. 226171
To apply/more information:
Nacro Services Kent
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 818305
Email
Colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk

ADMINISTRATION APPRENTICE

Chatham
Salary: £85 per week
Closing Date: 8 June 2009
Nacro is the principal crime reduction charity in England and Wales. It works to reduce crime by delivering a range of socially inclusive crime prevention initiatives by working for a fair and effective criminal justice system and by resettling offenders. Nacro Services in Kent and Medway offers vocational and skills training to young people aged 14-19years/ adult learners and those who wish to improve their literacy and numeracy. Our aim is to motivate raise selfesteem and increase self confidence through effective training and skills development to progress our learners into education, training or employment. As our provision extends we are looking for lively, self motivated individuals who enjoy the challenge of working with people of all ages but, in particular, young people. We have the following vacancies: TEAM LEADER (PUBLIC SERVICES/OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES) £21,584 (Inc Labour Market Uplift) We are looking for a motivated individual to develop and deliver a public services/outdoor activities course primarily through our e2e Programme. You will possess the appropriate skills to engage young people in sport and physical activity to increase their participation and progression. You will be experienced in using imaginative new techniques to ensure take up of the course. The post will be based at our Chatham Centre.
ADMINISTRATION APPRENTICE
Salary: £85 per week Nacro are seeking to recruit an Administration Apprentice to provide administrative assistance to support the Project Worker/Admin in the new Construction Building. This will include general office duties including answering the telephone, Faxing, Filing, Photocopying and to assist with some data imports Closing date for all the above posts is 8 June 2009 with interviews being held week commencing 15 June 2009. Contact Colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk or call on 01634 818305 for an application pack. Nacro is an equal opportunities employer and aims to eliminate unfair discrimination in its selection process. Nacro is a registered Charity No. 226171.
To apply/more information:
Nacro Services Kent
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 818305
Email
Colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk

Receptionist

Hythe
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 26th June 2009
20 hours per week required for busy doctor's surgery tocover 2 evenings and 3 mornings. Must be flexible, keyboard skills anadvantage but not essential. Please apply in writing with CV to Mrs Jill Blackman, Practice Manager, Sun Lane Surgery, 5 Sun Lane, Hythe, Kent CT21 5JX
To apply/more information:
Sun Lane Surgery
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email jill.blackman2@nhs.net

Receptionist

Broadstairs
Salary: £14,099 - £15,984 pro rata
Closing Date: 22 June 2009
Laleham Gap caters for pupils from 3-16 and is the county's leading provision for pupils with speech, language and communication difficulties. Required for September 2009: Receptionist needed at our Primary School in Broadstairs 28.5 hours per week term-time (8.30 - 1.45 Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri and 8.30 - 4.30 Wed) Kent Scheme Band 3 - £14,099 - £15,984 pro rata We are looking for someone to provide receptionist and clerical support at our Primary School in Broadstairs. Duties will include reception duties, word processing, filing, photocopying, answering telephone and email queries. You will need to have up-to-date knowledge of word processing packages and good interpersonal skills. Knowledge of SIMS.Net software would be advantageous. The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the young people in its care and all posts are subject to an enhanced CRB disclosure. Closing Date is 22 June 2009. Please send an A4 sized SAE (with 61p stamp) for an application pack to: Brenda Fallon, Laleham Gap School, 1 South Cliff Parade, Broadstairs, CT10 1TJ E-mail: office@laleham-gap.kent.sch.uk
To apply/more information:
Laleham Gap School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email office@
aleham-gap.kent.sch.uk

Agriculture, Forestry, Environment

Seasonal Temporary Nursery Assistants

Tonbridge
Salary: £5.75 per hour
Closing Date: 9th June 2009
This position is available on a temporary basis for immediate start until the end of July 2009. The successful candidate will be required to work 5 days a week. This role will involve potting, weeding and general maintenance of a wide range of container grown stock along with preparing plants ready for customer orders. The ideal candidate will work well as part

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of a team, be self-motivated and have a positive outlook on life. If you feel you have the necessary skills for this position, please send your CV and letter of application to Jo Dury, Coblands Nurseries, Trench Road, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 9NG or email Jo.dury@best4plants.co.uk.
www.best4plants.co.uk
Glendale is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Jo Dury
Coblands Nurseries
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email
Jo.dury@best4plants.co.uk

Catering, Hospitality

Chef and Waiting Staff

Faversham
Salary: TBA
White Lion Require Part time chef And Part time waiting staff Please call laura Tel: 01227 752211.
To apply/more information:
White Lion
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 752211
Email
applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Childrens's Club Leaders and Character Performer

Dover
Salary: n/a
Required for Dover-Calais Ferry contracts. Must be available to work 5 days per week, weekendsincluded and have accommodation in Dover area. Applicant will be subject to a CRB disclosure.
To apply/more information:
Live Business Grosvenor Productions
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email jobs@live business.co.uk

Domestic

House Team Member

Hythe
Salary: See Below
Short term placement with possible extension. Flexible approach / Sense of Humour / enjoying working in a team under supervision of the Housekeeper. Please ting the Administrator to arrange a weekend visit. £80 per 40 hour week plus bed and board. 95 Seabrook Road, Hythe, Kent, CT20 5QY 01303 230762.
To apply/more information:
Cautley House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 230762
Email susan.evans@
cautleyhouse.org.uk

Education, Teacher, School

Teacher of Art and Design

Aylesford
Salary: Main Scale
Closing Date: 19/06/2009
Aylesford School - Sports College is an innovative forward looking Specialist Sports College. We have a strong community ethos where we put the learner at the heart of everything we do. At Aylesford School - Sports College we can offer you:- * A brand new school. * Outstanding new facilities in all areas. * NQT/ New staff induction package that is second to none. * A highly regarded CPD programme with personal professional pathways. * Your own laptop. * A buzzing and vibrant staff who are friendly and keen to help one another. * A forward looking curriculum with individualised pathways for students. We are looking for a committed professional who:- * Is able to start in September. * Can motivate students through the curriculum. * Has the desire to make the difference. * Is focussed on developing their career further. * Is able to teach Art and Design at all key stages. This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. If you are keen to join our team at this exciting time in the development of our school please contact Miss Jill McKenna, on 01622-717341 ext 204 or email your request to jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk
To apply/more information:
Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@
aylesford.kent.sch.uk

TRAINER

Chatham
Salary: £19,658
Closing Date: 8 June 09
Nacro is the principal crime reduction charity in England and Wales. It works to reduce crime by delivering a range of socially inclusive crime prevention initiatives by working for a fair and effective criminal justice system and by resettling offenders. Nacro Services in Kent and Medway offers vocational and skills training to young people aged 14-19years/ adult learners and those who wish to improve their literacy and numeracy. Our aim is to motivate raise selfesteem and increase self confidence through effective training and skills development to progress our learners into education, training or employment. As our provision extends we are looking for lively, self motivated individuals who enjoy the challenge of working with people of all ages but, in particular, young people. We have the following vacancies: TRAINER £19,658 (Inc Labour Market Uplift) We hold contracts for Entry to Employment (e2e) and Schools to deliver programmes which engage and develop young people in order that they may progress into Employment, Training or Further Education. We are looking for an individual to join our staff team who is enthusiastic, lively and creative. You will be someone with experience/qualifications in Personal and Social areas preferably childcare and/or health so that we can expand our programme for young people. The post will be based at our Chatham Centre. Closing date for all the above posts is 8 June 2009 with interviews being held week commencing 15 June 2009. Contact Colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk or call on 01634 818305 for an application pack. Nacro is an equal opportunities employer and aims to eliminate unfair discrimination in its selection process. Nacro is a registered Charity No. 226171
To apply/more information:
Nacro Services Kent
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 818305
Email
Colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk

Lecturer Horticulture

Tonbridge
Salary: £22,459 to £30,276 per annum
Closing Date: 8th June 09
We are looking to recruit a highly motivated and enthusiastic Lecturer, who will be required to teach and give practical instruction to full and part-time students across a range of Level 1 and 2 Further Education programmes. The successful candidate will need to be educated to Level 3 and have practical experience in the horticulture industry. The role will include an element of Course Management responsibility. In addition to the minimum requirements detailed above, candidates will ideally have teaching experience in a practical and/or classroom setting together with a teaching qualification or the willingness to work towards one.
Candidates will aslo need to be adaptable, resourceful and resilient, have excellent communication and IT skills and the ability to work well as part of a team. The successful candidate will also need to be flexible, as the full-time hours will include teaching some evening classes and travelling to our satellite centres. As well as contributory pension scheme, sponsorship for further vocational training and free car parking, this post also attracts 35 days holiday each year (excluding Bank Holidays).
To apply/more information:
Hadlow College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 850 551
Email jobs@hadlow.ac.uk

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01303 817040

Teacher of PE

Chatham
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 21st June 2009
Required for 1 September 2009 Greenacre School is a boys high school with a mixed Sixth Form following a full range of academic and vocational courses. As a Sports College, Physical Education is a key influence in the future development of the school. We can offer: • A laptop • Outstanding resources • Improved KS3, GCSE and A Level results year on year. For further information and an application form please contact Mr. A J Reese, Headteacher, or download an application form from the school website. Informal visits are most welcome. Closing date for applications is 21st June 2009 GREENACRE SCHOOL A Specialist Sports College 157 Walderslade Road CHATHAM Kent. Tel: 01634-861593 Fax: 01634-869246 Email: office@greenacre.medway.sch.uk
www.greenacre.medway.sch.uk
To apply/more information:
Greenacre School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634-861593
Email office@
greenacre.medway.sch.uk

Trainer Demonstrator Construction

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £18,963 pro rata
Closing Date: Monday 8 June at 12 Noon
Sheppey College is a satellite of Canterbury College and has been open since 1996. We offer a variety of courses in a modern and friendly learning environment and enjoy excellent rates of success. 18.5 hours per week, 38 weeks term time Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus/Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack to apply, please visit www.canterburycollege. ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 07/07
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Temporary Section Manager Equine, Animal Care, Veterinary Services and Environmental Studies

Canterbury
Salary: £33,858 PA
Closing Date: Monday 8 June at 12 Noon
37 hours per week, Fixed term post up to 11 months, maternity cover Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme For an application pack, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 09/04
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Lecturer Animal Care and Land Based

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 PA
Closing Date: Monday 8 June at 12 Noon
Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 07/87
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Lecturer Media Theory

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 PA
Closing Date: Monday 8 June at 12 Noon
18.5 hours per week Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/53
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Lecturer Key Skills (to Automotive Engineering students)

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 PA (pro rata for part time posts)
Closing Date: Monday 8 June at 12 Noon
37 hours or 2 x 18.5 hours per week Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 07/30
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Trainer Demonstrator Public Services

Canterbury
Salary: £18,963 pro rata pa
Closing Date: Monday 8 June at 12 Noon
37 hours per week, 38 weeks term time. Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme. For an application pack, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/140
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@kosmedia.co.uk

SIMS Co-ordinator KS Band 7, Points 20 - 24

Gravesend
Salary: £18,263.52 pro rata
St John's is being fully rebuilt as part of the Kent Building Schools for the Future initiative. Building work is now under way. We are seeking support staff in the following roles for September 2009 to help us develop before the school moves to the new premises in 2010 We are looking for an experienced database co-ordinator to maintain and update the school SIMS database. The successful candidate will be responsible for data integrity and input, and organising data upgrades. They will also need to maintain the school timetable and prepare reports for the Senior Leadership Team and the Governors. Experience of working in a school is desirable and excellent ICT skills and accuracy are essential. This is a new and exciting role which will be tailored to meet the demands of the changing school environment.
To apply/more information:
St John's Catholic Comprehensive School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 534718
Email office@st-johns-gravesend.kent.sch.uk

Pastoral Manager KS Band 6, Points 17-20

Gravesend
Salary: £15,586.44 pro rata
St John's is being fully rebuilt as part of the Kent Building Schools for the Future initiative. Building work is now under way. We are seeking support staff in the following roles for September 2009 to help us develop before the school moves to the new premises in 2010. A flexible, enthusiastic and motivated person is required to support Community Co-ordinators in the welfare and day-to-day management of students in their communities. Experience of working with young people is desirable and ability to manage workload effectively is essential. A First Aid qualification is desirable.
To apply/more information:
St John's Catholic Comprehensive School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 534718
Email office@st-johns-gravesend.kent.sch.uk

Community Admin Assistant KS Band 4, Points 11 - 14

Gravesend
Salary: £13,758.36 pro rata
St John's is being fully rebuilt as part of the Kent Building Schools for the Future initiative. Building work is now under way. We are seeking support staff in the following roles for September 2009 to help us develop before the school moves to the new premises in 2010. An enthusiastic and reliable person is required to work as administrative support for a Community (approximately 400 students). The successful candidate will be required to input student data, log attendance and behaviour, be first contact point for student medical assistance and provide admin support. Identification and resolution of student issues will be a key part of the job. Excellent English, Maths, communication and organisational skills are required. The successful candidate must have a First Aid qualification or be prepared to take the necessary course to obtain one.
To apply/more information:
St John's Catholic Comprehensive School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 534718
Email office@st-johns-gravesend.kent.sch.uk

Receptionist (part-time) KS Band 3, Point 7 - 11

Gravesend
Salary: £8,221.32 pro-rata
St John's is being fully rebuilt as part of the Kent Building Schools for the Future initiative. Building work is now under way. We are seeking support staff in the following roles for September 2009 to help us develop before the school moves to the new premises in 2010. A professional and efficient person is required to work in our reception area. The successful candidate will be the first point of contact for telephone enquires and will be responsible for visitors, telephone messages and post distribution and despatch. Handling student enquiries is a key part of the role. Excellent customer service and communication skills are essential. The successful candidate must have a First Aid qualification or be prepared to take the necessary course to obtain one.
To apply/more information:
St John's Catholic Comprehensive School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 534718
Email office@st-johns-gravesend.kent.sch.uk

Teachers Wanted

Sevenoaks
Salary: TBA
Local Teachers for local schools. We have 100's of permanent positions throughout Kent for qualified teachers, teaching assistants and school support staff.
To apply/more information:
Timeplan Education Group
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 373340
Email paul.chuter@timeplan.net

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Teacher of Business Studies

Aylesford
Salary: Main Scale
Closing Date: 15/06/2009
At Aylesford School - Sports College we can offer you:- * A brand new school. * Outstanding new facilities in all areas. * NQT/ New staff induction package that is second to none. * A highly regarded CPD programme with personal professional pathways. * Your own laptop. * A buzzing and vibrant staff who are friendly and keen to help one another. * A forward looking curriculum with individualised pathways for students. We are looking for a committed professional who:- * Is able to start in September. * Can motivate students through the curriculum. * Has the desire to make the difference. * Is focussed on developing their career further. * Is able to teach Business Studies at key stage 4 and 5. This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. If you are keen to join our team at this exciting time in the development of our school please contact Miss Jill McKenna, on 01622-717341 ext 204 or e-mail your request to jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk
To apply/more information:
Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@
aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Programme Area Leader in Beauty

Medway
Salary: £30,204- £33,935 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 17 June
We are looking to recruit an exceptional candidate to provide support to the Head of School on all Staffing, Student, Curriculum and Quality issues. The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate a significant level of competence in Teaching and Learning, have experience of action planning and have good negotiating/ communication skills. The post holder will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: PAL01
Tel: 01634 884402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Foundation Programmes

Medway
Salary: £25,895- £29,622 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 17 June
We are looking to recruit an outstanding individual to teach and participate in the development of the Life and Work Skills for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. The successful candidate will have good communication skills, a patient and mature attitude and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0567
Tel: 01634 884402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Health and Social Care

Medway
Salary: £25,895- £29,622 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 17 June
We are looking for a passionate candidate to be involved in the delivery of edexcel Healthcare programmes. The successful candidate will have proven knowledge and experience within Healthcare environments and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0063
Tel: 01634 884402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

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Lecturer in Media

Medway
Salary: £25,895- £29,622 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 17 June 09
The successful candidate will teach on Media programmes, providing programme management and curriculum tutorial support as required. A Degree or HND in a Media Discipline and a creative attitude coupled with excellent communication skills is essential. The post holder will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0354
Tel: 01634 884402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Animal Care

Medway
Salary: £20,700- £25,309 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 17 June 09
The primary role of the post holder will be to teach on and participate in the development of a range and levels of Animal Care courses. Courses are offered from Entry Level to Level Three. The Higher Diploma Environment and Land Based will start in September. A relevant qualification in Animal Care and previous experience is essential and the successful candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Equine experience would be welcomed, though not essential. Animal care is a vibrant department and all courses are popular and oversubscribed. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0355
Tel: 01634 884402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in IT - Level 1

Medway
Salary: £25,895- £29,622 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 17 June 09
We wish to appoint a lecturer in Information Technology to teach across a range of BTEC and Diploma programmes to post 16 students at our Medway, Gillingham campus, especially at level 1 and including Functional Skills. They must either have or be prepared to undergo training for a teaching qualification and be able to manage and coordinate a team to provide and develop a coherent programme of study suitable for these levels of student. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0354
Tel: 01634 884402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in IT - Level 2 and 3

Medway
Salary: £25,895- £29,622 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 17 June 09
We wish to appoint a lecturer in Information Technology to teach across a range of BTEC and Diploma programmes to post 16 students at our Medway, Gillingham campus at level 2 and level 3. They must either have or be prepared to undergo training for a teaching qualification and be able to manage and coordinate a team to provide and develop a coherent programme of study suitable for these levels of student. They must also be prepared to teach Functional Skills at level 2. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0366
Tel: 01634 884402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Technician in Hair

Medway
Salary: £13,544 - £16,392 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 17 June 09
The ideal candidate will be able to provide technical support to staff and students and will be responsible for setting-up and providing classroom support. Experience in the industry would be advantageous. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0395
Tel: 01634 884402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Technician in Building and Civil Engineering

Medway
Salary: £15,607 - £19,127 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 17 June
The primary role of the post holder will be to carry out technician duties, assist tutors and learners in all practical aspects of construction and perform other technician work across the school. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0149
Tel: 01634 884402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

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EFL

Dover
Salary: TBA
Co-educational Day and Boarding School Required for September 2009 EFL, Part time or Full time Applications are invited from suitably qualified EFL specialists to join the International Department at Dover College Applications, with further details of the post are available from; Mrs Debra Kilvington, PA to Headmaster. Dover College, Effingham Crescent, Dover. Kent. CT17 9RH Tel: 01304 205969 ext. 201 Email: hm.pa@dovercollege.org.uk www.dovercollege.org.uk Dover College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Dover College: Registered Charity Number 307856.
To apply/more information:
Dover College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 205969 ext. 201
Email
hm.pa@dovercollege.org.uk

HOUSE MANAGER - CHILDCARE

Broadstairs
Salary: £26,067 - £28,172 per annum
Closing Date: Friday 19th June 2009
41 hours per week, (including split shifts and weekends) - Term time only Working as part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, Friday 19th June 2009. For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children. For an application form and information pack please call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine), or email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk. Please note that CV's will not be considered.
To apply/more information:
Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 608727
Email personnel@
bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

HOUSEPARENT - CHILDCARE

Broadstairs
Salary: £15,217- £17,233 per annum
Closing Date: 12 noon, Friday 19th June 2009
33 hours per week (including split shifts and weekends) - Term time only Working as part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, Friday 19th June 2009. For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children. For an application form and information pack please call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine), or email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk. Please note that CV's will not be considered.
To apply/more information:
Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 608727
Email personnel@
bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

SENIOR CLASSROOM SUPPORT ASSISTANT

Broadstairs
Salary: £13,063 - £14,205
Closing Date: 12 noon, Thursday 2nd July 2009.
£13,063 - £14,205 (plus one hour of contractual overtime weekly) per annum - 36 hours per week - Term time only. The Senior Class Support Assistant will be prime support for teachers in a class, following pre-set work and behaviour programmes, and acting as the second in charge of the class team, leading and mentoring junior colleagues as and when appropriate. Please note that the successful applicant will also be required to work on one Saturday per term, for which overtime will be paid. Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, Thursday 2nd July 2009. For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children. For an application form and information pack please call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine), or email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk. Please note that CV's will not be considered.
To apply/more information:
Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 608727
Email personnel@
bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANTS

Broadstairs
Salary: £12,496 per annum
Closing Date: 12 noon, Friday 19th June 2009.
The successful applicants will be responsible for assisting teachers in the school and have a particular responsibility towards one teaching group. TEAM SUPPORT WORKER - EDUCATION £12,496 per annum - 37_ hours per week, 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Mon-Fri - Term time only Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, Friday 19th June 2009. For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children. For an application form and information pack please call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine), or email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk. Please note that CV's will not be considered.
To apply/more information:
Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 608727
Email personnel@
bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

EXAMINATION SECRETARY

Rochester
Salary: £14,847 - £18,882 fte Pro rata
Closing Date: Friday 19th June 2009
Term Time only - 24 hours per week (hours/days to be agreed) Some flexibility of actual working hours may be required **Salary:** pro-rata on the NJC Pay Scale Grade D2 point 12-21 – (currently £14,847 - £18,882 fte) A rewarding opportunity has arisen for a pro-active, organised and self-motivated person to provide primary support for our examinations officer. This will involve preparation of seating plans, organising exam materials and coordinating student entry requirements and exam board queries, and will therefore necessitate dealings with both internal and external bodies. Particularly during the busy primary examination periods during the year some flexibility in working times would be an advantage. This role has a dual function which at other times during the year will require the post-holder to provide support for general admin as necessary. Please send your letter of application & CV, together with Application Form (available on the school website) to: Mr S Rayner, Finance and Business Manager, to the address. Arethusa Road, Rochester, Kent, ME1 2UW Headteacher: Mr P Jackson, BSc Tel: 01634 844809 Fax: 01634 818385 Email: office@thomasaveling.co.uk www.thomasaveling.co.uk Closing date: Friday 19th June 2009 The Thomas Aveling School is an equal opportunities employer - committed to safeguarding the welfare of all students and an enhanced CRB check will be required for the successful applicant.
To apply/more information:
Thomas Aveling School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 844809
Email
office@thomasaveling.co.uk

ATTENDANCE OFFICER

Rochester
Salary: £14,847-£18,882 fte Pro Rata
Closing Date: Friday 19th June 2009
Arethusa Road, ROCHESTER, Kent, ME1 2UW Headteacher: Mr P Jackson, BSc Tel: 01634 844809 Fax: 01634 818385 e-mail: office@thomasaveling.co.uk www.thomasaveling.co.uk Term Time only - 30-37 hours per week (negotiable) **Salary:** pro rata on the NJC Pay Scale Grade D2 Point 12-21 – (currently £14,847-£18,882 fte) We seek an experienced clerical support worker to take over the duties of Student Attendance Officer as soon as possible. Tasks include recording and monitoring attendance of students, providing information for management and completion of returns for local and central Government. The successful candidate will have excellent interpersonal and communication skills and sound administrative/ICT capability. • Job description and application form available on the school website • Please contact the school to request an informal visit if required Please send your letter of application & CV, together with Application Form (available on school website) to: Mr S Rayner, Finance & Business Manager, to the above address.
Closing Date: Friday 19th June 2009 The Thomas Aveling School is an Equal Opportunities Employer - committed to safeguarding the welfare of all students and an enhanced CRB check will be required for the successful applicant
To apply/more information:
Thomas Aveling School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 844809
Email
office@thomasaveling.co.uk

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

BMS Commissioning Engineer

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
Due to continued success and expansion we have two immediate opportunities to join our friendly, dynamic and pro-active team. You are required to have been employed as a Commissioning Engineer with at least 3 years on site experience. Full certified Trend training (IQ2, IQ3, and 963). Experience of commissioning networked BMS systems.Involves writing strategies, testing, pre-commissioning of software and control panels, Commissioning completed installations and demonstration to the end user. Ability to trouble shoot, fault find and modify control panels is a must. CV's can be emailed to recruitment@safeandsoundcontrols.com or posted to Unit 22 Chislet Close, Lakesview International Business Park, Canterbury, Kent CT3 4LB.
To apply/more information:
Safe and Sound Control
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email recruitment@
safeandsoundcontrols.com

Air Conditioning PPM and Repairs Supervisor

Orpington
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 26 June 09
Duties involve Supervising a small team of engineers within major customer sites with critical needs in London and Home Counties. Technically excellent and able to communicate such, to service all works on Close Control, Small Chillers VRV and Split Air Conditioning. The role requires an experienced Supervisor with 5 years or more within a similar role, and possesses plenty of initiative, is motivated and shows positive people and team leadership qualities. Planning jobs, working within profitability targets for PPM works and within budgetary controls for tools, parts and materials. Attending site meetings and dealing with both praise and problems and recommending and actioning effective solutions. Training, coaching and discipline of engineers. Making good use of resources, documents and reporting systems. Good Package plus benefits. Please apply for the full job description and application form. Contact Karen Leader resources@barrierac.com or telephone 01689 899445 in the strictest confidence.
To apply/more information:
Barrier Air Conditioning
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01689 899445
Email resources@barrierac.com

Estate Agency, Property

Sales Consultants

Medway
Salary: TBA
The market is turning, an excellent time to get into Estate Agency. Your Move is one of the largest estate agents in the UK. We are looking for energetic, enthusiastic ambitious individuals to join our Medway team. Office based you will register buyers, sellers, arrange viewings, negotiate offers and deal with all other aspects of the property industry. We reward progression to our top performing staff. In house training, paid holiday, basic and commission. The job is five days a week, including weekend work. You will need customer service/sales experience, full driving licence and the ability to work to targets whilst delivering the very best customer service. For more information contact joe.jenkins@your-move.co.uk, Your Move, 171 High Street, Rochester, ME1 1EH.
To apply/more information:
Your Move
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email joe.jenkins@
your-move.co.uk

EXPERIENCED SALES NEGOTIATOR

Thanet
Salary: n/a
to work full time at our busy Broadstairs office. The position includes weekend work and offers an attractive salary, bonus structure and commission package, depending on experience. CVs to Mrs Jose Barnett, Cooke & Co, 56 High Street, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 1JT.
To apply/more information:
Mrs Jose Barnett,
Cooke & Co
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 231833
Email jose@cookeandco.com.

Lettings Negotiator/ Administrator

Margate
Salary: TBA
Lettings Negotiator/Administrator required for busy cliftonville office. Must be enthusiastic, motivated and offer excellent customer service. Own car and previous experience are essential. Good rates of pay offered for the successful candidate. Please send CV to paul.gibbs@fst-lettings.co.uk 01843 234160.
To apply/more information:
FST Lettings
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 234160
Email paul.gibbs@
fst-lettings.co.uk

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Health & Safety, Security, Defense

Residential Caretaker

Sevenoaks
Salary: £18,092
Closing Date: 19 June 2009
West Kent Housing Association aims to provide equality and opportunity for all we house and employ 37 hrs pw split shift Residential Caretaker - Sevenoaks Plus rent free accommodation. Job Ref KOS/BOS003 Spot salary £18,092 West Kent is a top performing housing association providing excellent homes and services across Kent. We are a Sunday Times Top 100 employer and were recently accredited with the Customer Service Excellence Award and are now looking for a residential caretaker who can help our staff, look after our tenants and maintain excellent customer service. Can you be relied on to get the job done? Could you be cutting the grass one minute and rescuing someone from a lift the next? Do you have commercial cleaning and general maintenance skills? Are you health and safety conscious, able to work at heights and move heavy objects? If you can say yes to all the above and are able to use your own initiative, supervise a cleaner, support others and are customer focused, then this could be the job for you. You will need to be able to work a split shift starting at 7:30am. This post offers excellent benefits and rent free accommodation in Sevenoaks town centre, in order to enable you to respond to office security issues and emergencies, including some out of office hours. For more information and to download an application pack, please visit our website or call Sue Ludbrook on 01732 749431. www.westkent.org. Interview date: 6 July 2009.
To apply/more information:
West Kent Housing
Quoting Job Ref: KOS/BOS003
Tel: 01732 749431
Email
applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Management, Senior Positions

TEAM LEADER (PUBLIC SERVICES/OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES)

Chatham
Salary: £21,584
Closing Date: 8 June 2009
Nacro is the principal crime reduction charity in England and Wales. It works to reduce crime by delivering a range of socially inclusive crime prevention initiatives by working for a fair and effective criminal justice system and by resettling offenders. Nacro Services in Kent and Medway offers vocational and skills training to young people aged 14-19years/ adult learners and those who wish to improve their literacy and numeracy. Our aim is to motivate raise selfesteem and increase self confidence through effective training and skills development to progress our learners into education, training or employment. As our provision extends we are looking for lively, self motivated individuals who enjoy the challenge of working with people of all ages but, in particular, young people. We have the following vacancies: TEAM LEADER (PUBLIC SERVICES/OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES) £21,584 (Inc Labour Market Uplift) We are looking for a motivated individual to develop and deliver a public services/outdoor activities course primarily through our e2e Programme. You will possess the appropriate skills to engage young people in sport and physical activity to increase their participation and progression. You will be experienced in using imaginative new techniques to ensure take up of the course. The post will be based at our Chatham Centre. Closing date for all the above posts is 8 June 2009 with interviews being held week commencing 15 June 2009. Contact Colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk or call on 01634 818305 for an application pack. Nacro is an equal opportunities employer and aims to eliminate unfair discrimination in its selection process. Nacro is a registered Charity No. 226171
To apply/more information:
Nacro Services Kent
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 212305
Email
Colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk

Business Manager

Gravesend
Salary: KSS Band 12 (£41,112-£48,152)
Closing Date: Monday 22nd June 2009
Required for September 2009. We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and committed

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Business Manager to join the Senior Leadership Team and make a key strategic contribution to the continued development of the school. The successful candidate will be highly motivated with superb interpersonal skills who can take the initiative and motivate others. You will also need to have a high level of experience in administration, financial management, project management and team leadership. Experience of working in education would be an advantage. By 2010 the school will have undergone major redevelopment as part of the 'Building Schools for the Future' initiative and we would expect you to take a very 'hands on' role in this important project. The School has a high profile for achievement locally and nationally and prides itself on a strong record of internal professional development. Academic standards are exceptionally high (Ofsted 2008) and the School has acquired Investor in People and Investor in Careers status. We were identified as one of the particularly successful schools in the HMI Chief Inspector's Report for 2002-03 and we have been a Specialist Science College since September 2004, adding a second specialism in Languages in April 2009. To request an application pack please contact Mrs Maureen Tong-Ralphs, PA to the Headteacher Completed forms should be returned by Monday 22nd June 2009 to Mrs Wilson, Headteacher. The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.
To apply/more information:
Mrs Maureen Tong-Ralphs
Gravesend Grammar School for Girl
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 352896
Email enquiries @ggsg.org.uk

Projects Manager

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
You will need to have been been employed as a Projects Manager with at least 3 years relevant experience. Able to coordinate and manage site installation activities including sub-contractors. Experience of networked BMS systems. Ability to manage all aspects of a project including budget and cost control reporting to Director level. Both roles require travel throughout the South East, a good grounding in electronics and/or electrical installation with a working knowledge of wiring regulations and health & safety. You will be highly motivated and flexible with a positive attitude and the ability to work on own initiative, a clean driving license and CSCS card. CV's can be emailed to recruitment@safeandsoundcontrols.com or posted to Unit 22 Chislet Close, Lakesview International Business Park, Canterbury, Kent CT3 4LB.
To apply/more information:
Safe and Sound Control
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email recruitment@ safeandsoundcontrols.com

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dartford
Salary: £30,000-£32,000p.a
Closing Date: 19th June 2009
Alzheimer's & Dementia Support Services (ADSS) seek a CEO to succeed the current post holder who is retiring. ADSS an independent charity, is the lead provider of practical and emotional support to people with dementia and their carers' in North West Kent and is well regarded by those who use the service and its funders. The role is wide ranging and requires an understanding of dementia and its impact on individuals and their families. You will need a sound knowledge of charity and employment law, financial management, an ability to lead a dedicated team with a commitment to drive the charity forward. This is a full time post 37 hours per week with some unsocial hours. Start date Oct/Nov 2009. To request a postal application pack either Tel: 01474 533990 or email adminadss@btconnect.com by 19th June 2009
To apply/more information:
Alzheimers & Dementia Support
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 533990
Email adminadss@btconnect.com

FOSTER MANAGER

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: TBA
Benecare is looking for a Fostering Manager with Developmental experience who can take our OFSTED Registered Fostering Agency into the next stage of our Strategic plan. Based in Kent we now intend to take our service provision closer to London authorities and to adjacent counties. Our new additional office will be based in Northern / Kent London Borders and it will be part of the successful candidates' job to help set this up. For a full discussion of the role and expectations, terms, and generous performance reward provisions please contact Steve Richmond Managing Director On : Office - 01892 740886 Mobile 07710 145802.
To apply/more information:
Bene Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 740886
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Motor Trade, Driver

Retail Car Sales Consultants

Maidstone
Salary: TBA
FG Barnes (Maidstone) Ltd Vauxhall & Chevrolet Retailer • Retail Car Sales Consultants • B2B Sales Consultants • Commercial Vehicle Specialist • Finance & Insurance Business Manager The introduction of the Government backed scrappage scheme has been a tremendous success here at FG Barnes (Maidstone) who is part of the Barnes Group, a family owned motor dealer group based in South East. We are now looking for experienced sales professionals to join our busy sales team. As part of the Vauxhall & Chevrolet Dealer network committed to quality through innovation we offer an attractive salary structure, exciting career opportunities and a secure future. If you are ambitious and want to join a retailer aspiring to become the market leader in the area through customer satisfaction, then please write to us with your career history and current salary including bonus and benefit details to; General Manager, FG Barnes (Maidstone) Ltd, Sutton Road, Park Wood, Maidstone ME15 9YF. Email: enquiries@fgbarnes.co.uk
To apply/more information:
F G Barnes
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email enquiries@fgbarnes.co.uk

B2B Sales Consultants

Maidstone
Salary: TBA
FG Barnes (Maidstone) Ltd Vauxhall & Chevrolet Retailer • Retail Car Sales Consultants • B2B Sales Consultants • Commercial Vehicle Specialist • Finance & Insurance Business Manager.The introduction of the Government backed scrappage scheme has been a tremendous success here at FG Barnes (Maidstone) who is part of the Barnes Group, a family owned motor dealer group based in South East. We are now looking for experienced sales professionals to join our busy sales team. As part of the Vauxhall & Chevrolet Dealer network committed to quality through innovation we offer an attractive salary structure, exciting career opportunities and a secure future. If you are ambitious and want to join a retailer aspiring to become the market leader in the area through customer satisfaction, then please write to us with your career history and current salary including bonus and benefit details to; General Manager, FG Barnes (Maidstone) Ltd, Sutton Road, Park Wood, Maidstone ME15 9YF. Email: enquiries@fgbarnes.co.uk
To apply/more information:
F G Barnes
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email enquiries@fgbarnes.co.uk

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Commercial Vehicle Specialist

Maidstone
Salary: TBA
FG Barnes (Maidstone) Ltd Vauxhall & Chevrolet Retailer • Retail Car Sales Consultants • B2B Sales Consultants • Commercial Vehicle Specialist • Finance & Insurance Business Manager. The introduction of the Government backed scrappage scheme has been a tremendous success here at FG Barnes (Maidstone) who is part of the Barnes Group, a family owned motor dealer group based in South East. We are now looking for experienced sales professionals to join our busy sales team. As part of the Vauxhall & Chevrolet Dealer network committed to quality through innovation we offer an attractive salary structure, exciting career opportunities and a secure future. If you are ambitious and want to join a retailer aspiring to become the market leader in the area through customer satisfaction, then please write to us with your career history and current salary including bonus and benefit details to; General Manager, FG Barnes (Maidstone) Ltd, Sutton Road, Park Wood, Maidstone ME15 9YF. Email: enquiries@fgbarnes.co.uk
To apply/more information:
F G Barnes
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email enquiries@fgbarnes.co.uk

Finance and Insurance Business Manager

Maidstone
Salary: TBA
FG Barnes (Maidstone) Ltd Vauxhall & Chevrolet Retailer • Retail Car Sales Consultants • B2B Sales Consultants • Commercial Vehicle Specialist • Finance & Insurance Business Manager The introduction of the Government backed scrappage scheme has been a tremendous success here at FG Barnes (Maidstone) who is part of the Barnes Group, a family owned motor dealer group based in South East. We are now looking for experienced sales professionals to join our busy sales team. As part of the Vauxhall & Chevrolet Dealer network committed to quality through innovation we offer an attractive salary structure, exciting career opportunities and a secure future. If you are ambitious and want to join a retailer aspiring to become the market leader in the area through customer satisfaction, then please write to us with your career history and current salary including bonus and benefit details to; General Manager, FG Barnes (Maidstone) Ltd, Sutton Road, Park Wood, Maidstone ME15 9YF. Email: enquiries@fgbarnes.co.uk
To apply/more information:
F G Barnes
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email enquiries@fgbarnes.co.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

HEALTH CARE ASSISTANT and NIGHT CARE ASSISTANT

Hythe
Salary: TBA
Hythe Nursing Home,Hythe Kent Require a HEALTH CARE ASSISTANT Full/Part Time & NIGHT CARE ASSISTANT 8PM - 8AM Please telephone 01303 265441.
To apply/more information:
Hythe Nursing Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 265441
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

DISPENSER WITH RECEPTIONIST SKILLS

Rochester
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 19 June 09
St Werburgh Medical Practice 98 Bells Lane, Hoo, Rochester, Kent ME3 9HU Tel: 01634 250523. PART TIME DISPENSER WITH RECEPTIONIST SKILLS REQUIRED GP Dispensing Practice 20 Hours per Week Mon - Fri, NVQ level 2 qualification in Dispensing essential. Must be able to work without supervision and have own transport. Must be willing to cover holidays and sickness. Contact; Mrs Julie Allen - Julie.allen@nhs.net
To apply/more information:
St Werburgh Medical Practice
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email Julie.allen@nhs.net

Broker

Canterbury
Salary: £20,791 per annum
Closing Date: 22/06/09
East Kent Mencap has been selected by Kent Adult Social Services to undertake a one year pilot to implement Self Directed Support in Dover, Canterbury and Thanet. Self Directed Support (SDS) means: • Better access to information, advice and guidance to support people in finding their own solutions. • People will be able to self assess with as much or as little support as they need to complete the assessment • Everyone who is eligible for social care will have a personal budget and know what money they have to plan their support • People will have control over the way the money is spent, so they can plan their own lives • Providing people with as much or as little help in directing their own support and managing the money as they need. This is a genuine opportunity for people with learning disabilities to realise a Personalised and independent future. Flexible and highly motivated Brokers will be vital in achieving successful self directed support outcomes. Brokers provide a skilled, technical service that is distinct from the role of advocates and separate from the role of assessment. The key functions of Brokerage are: • Planning • Service Design • Arranging Support Packages • Finance Management • Employing Staff. We are seeking a full time broker for 37 hours per week to cover the Canterbury and Thanet Districts. We will consider part time posts. The successful applicant will receive full Brokerage training and work with Key Partners to develop and sustain generic services. For an application pack or more information contact Jason Gerlack CEO, East Kent Mencap (01843-224482).
To apply/more information:
Jason Gerlack
East Kent Mencap
Quoting Job Ref: BRK0001
Tel: 01843-224482
Email Jason.Gerlack@ eastkentmencap.co.uk

Broker

Thanet
Salary: £20,791 per annum
Closing Date: 22/06/09
East Kent Mencap has been selected by Kent Adult Social Services to undertake a one year pilot to implement Self Directed Support in Dover, Canterbury and Thanet. Self Directed Support (SDS) means: • Better access to information, advice and guidance to support people in finding their own solutions. • People will be able to self assess with as much or as little support as they need to complete the assessment • Everyone who is eligible for social care will have a personal budget and know what money they have to plan their support • People will have control over the way the money is spent, so they can plan their own lives • Providing people with as much or as little help in directing their own support and managing the money as they need. This is a genuine opportunity for people with learning disabilities to realise a Personalised and independent future. Flexible and highly motivated Brokers will be vital in achieving successful self directed support outcomes. Brokers provide a skilled, technical service that is distinct from the role of advocates and separate from the role of assessment. The key functions of Brokerage are: • Planning • Service Design • Arranging Support Packages • Finance Management • Employing Staff. We are seeking a full time broker for 37 hours per week to cover the Canterbury and Thanet Districts. We will consider part time posts. The successful applicant will receive full Brokerage training and work with Key Partners to develop and sustain generic services. For an application pack or more information contact Jason Gerlack CEO, East Kent Mencap (01843-224482).
To apply/more information:
Jason Gerlack
East Kent Mencap
Quoting Job Ref: BRK0001
Tel: 01843-224482
Email Jason.Gerlack@ eastkentmencap.co.uk

Registered Nurses Level 1

Maidstone
Salary: TBA
Full and Part Time positions available. ASSISTANT MANAGER EASTFIELD RESIDENTIAL HOME MAIDSTONE Minimum qualification NVQ111 with preferred experience in Dementia Care Salary negotiable For details contact Tina Thomas Mob: 07707038230 Email: Tina.Thomas@njch.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Pauline Matthews
Nicholas James Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 458116
Email managerharbledown@ njch.co.uk

Assistant Manager

Maidstone
Salary: Negotiable
Minimum qualification NVQ111 with preferred experience in Dementia Care.
To apply/more information:
Tina Thomas
Nicholas James Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07707038230
Email Tina.Thomas@njch.co.uk

Waking Night Carers

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
We are a specialist care home for yonger adults with dementia (Korsakoff's Syndrome) Due to growth, we seek 2 kind, sensible, fun but reliable individuals to join our team and provide care and support to our clients during the night. You will have 4+ yrs experience in mental health/residential care, or equivalent in a person-centered industry. Full training provided for all, including VRQ's?NVQ's. £78 - £94 per 12hr shift, 28 days holiday. For more info, see www.dementia-care.com To apply, call Emma, 9am - 5pm Mon-Fri on 01227 860516 or 07811 200279 or email: emma@ theupstreetproject.org.uk
To apply/more information:
Elizabeth House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 860516
Email emma@ theupstreetproject.org.uk

Other

Mystery Shoppers

Thanet
Salary: TBA
Mystery Shoppers needed in Thanet, Kent We are currently recruiting for mystery shoppers of all ages in Thanet. A mystery shopper is someone who visits an establishment, typically a retail store, for the purpose of observing and evaluating customer service, product quality and the environment of the establishment from a typical customer's perspective. After visiting the specified establishment shoppers then complete an online visit questionnaire. Good rates apply per mystery shop. Please apply to ailishw@catalyst-mc.com and attach your CV.
To apply/more information:
Catalyst
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email ailishw@catalyst-mc.com

Public Sector, Social Services

Public Rights of Way Office (Enforcement)

Maidstone
Salary: £20,262 - £30,219 DOE
Joining our Public Rights of Way Team, you will have considerable experience of Public Rights of Way or enforcement along with the ability to apply that experience in a pragmatic way to a range of challenging situations. You will be able to investigate reported breaches, prepare case papers and present evidence in Court to the highest standard and be able to develop similar skills in those around you. Communicating the requirements of the law effectively to a diverse range of groups with the intention of reducing the number of offences being reported is also required. With your excellent organisation and communication skills, you will juggle numerous competing priorities and adapt readily to the use of new technology. Your will be a team player, with either considerable proven experience of working with PROW or enforcement or be educated to HND or degree level in a related subject.
To apply/more information:
Graham Rusling
Kent County Council
Quoting Job Ref: ER/09/0040
Tel: 01622 696995
Email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk

Public Rights of Way Officer (Asset Management Delivery)

West Malling
Salary: Starting Salary £20,262
1 year fixed term appointment jwith possible extension subjet to funding. The Countryside Access Service is looking for a new officer to join them to delivery capital maintenance programmes across the county. A substantial proportio of the network sits within the Kent Downs and High Weald Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. You will be joing a busy West Kent PROW Team, and will prepare and supervise programmes of capital works. Working closely with landowners, local councils and other agencies to secure all ncessary consents and permissions, the post carries a high volume workload so you will need to be able to juggle numerous competing priorities and adapt readily to the use of new technology. A team player, and competent to NVQ3 level in civil engineering, contract managment, estate managements, you will be able to demonstrat the same level of competency in a similar related area. The post also require a high level of motivation, a good knowledge of rights of way law and practice and excellent organisational and communication skills.
To apply/more information:
Graham Rusling
Kent County Council
Quoting Job Ref: ER/09/0041
Tel: 01622 696995
Email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk

Scheme Leader for NVQ Health and Social Care

Canterbury
Salary: Band 6: £24,831 - £33,436 p.a.
Closing Date: 16 June 2009
Based in Canterbury/West Malling. The KMPT NVQ Centre wishes to recruit a full time member of staff to take the lead in the delivery of NVQs in Health and Social Care. Ideally you will hold the Certificate in Education (post compulsory) and be qualified as an NVQ assessor. The internal verifier award is seen as essential, however if you do not hold this award, you will be supported to undertake it. In addition to this, you will be a registered nurse or hold an equivalent level four vocational qualification in health and social care. This is an exciting position in a rapidly developing centre that delivers NVQs to staff working within the Trust and to external candidates. For an informal discussion please contact Martin Hunt on 01227 812307 or email martin.hunt@kmpt.nhs.uk If your application is successful, you will be notified by e-mail.
To apply/more information:
Martin Hunt
Kent & Medway NHS
Quoting Job Ref: P910
Tel: 01227 812307
Email martin.hunt@kmpt.nhs.uk

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

Sales Executives

Edenbridge
Salary: TBA
Required at Harwoods, Land Rover. Candidates will pride themselves on their committment to excellence and outstanding customer satisfaction. Applicants must be smart and presentable with confidence, outstanding communication skills, an excellent telephone manner and capable of high levels of achievement. These are demanding roles for established sales people who must have a team approach, the ability to communicate at all levels and a proven sales track record. A basic salary together with an achievable bonus scheme will deliver excellent earnings. For an imediate interview please send your CV to: gmerret@harwoods.uk.com
To apply/more information:
Harwoods of Edenbridge
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email gmerrett@harwoods.uk.com

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To advertise in this section or online 01303 817040

SALES AGENTS

Folkestone
Salary: £16k - £18k OTE
Closing Date: 12 June 2009
Opportunities in Home and Motor Insurance, Outbound, Private Medical Insurance and Broking £16k - £18k OTE (basic salary + uncapped commission) Excellent benefits package | FOLKESTONE Listening to customers. Taking the time to understand their needs. Building a real rapport with them. That's what we call doing things properly for our customers as we deliver great service, selling our products to people aged 50 and over. And if you can help us achieve that, we'll do things properly for you too. That means excellent training and development at every stage. It also means unlimited earnings potential and superb benefits including private healthcare, pension scheme, social club and discounts on insurance products, holidays and flights for you and your relatives. What's more, it means a friendly working environment - as well as all the training and support you need to do a terrific job. The question is, have you got what it takes to be part of this fast-growing national company? You'll need to be target driven and able to rise to new challenges, that's for sure. You must also share our commitment to getting things right - every time. If you're interested in any of our roles within Outbound, Private Medical Insurance and Broking, relevant experience would be beneficial. If it's time for you to enjoy the rewards you deserve please write enclosing your CV, quoting reference SVS307/KOS, to Alice Forsyth, HR Officer, Saga Group Limited, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE or e-mail: human.resources@saga.co.uk Alternatively, please call 01303 774888 for an application form or download one from our website. saga.co.uk.
To apply/more information:
Saga
Quoting Job Ref: SVS307/KOS
Tel: 01303 774888
Email human.resources@saga.co.uk

Catalogue Distributors

Maidstone
Salary: £50-£300 per week
£50-£300 per week Flexi hours, Part or full time, 18+ Tel: 01622 808617 www.goldchasers.co.uk Catalogue Distributors Required.
To apply/more information:
Goldchasers
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 808617
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Highways - Boroughs of Gravesham and Dartford and in the District of Sevenoaks

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
VARIOUS ROADS, GRAVESHAM, DARTFORD & SEVENOAKS (COUNTYWIDE IMPROVEMENTS) (TEMPORARY RESTRICTION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on various roads, as noted in schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 22nd June 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last as noted in the attached schedule. These closures and restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative routes for the route described will be as noted in the attached schedule.

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate Carriageway Resurfacing works.

Schedule 1

Road Name	Extent	Dates	Diversion
In Sevenoaks			
A25 High Street, Brasted	Between Church Road and Chart Lane	15th & 16th July 2009 between 20:00 and 05:00	A25 Westerham Road, Brasted Road, A233 Beggars Lane, London Road, Westerham Hill, Main Road, Leaves Green Road, Westerham Road, A232 Croydon Road, A21 Farnborough Common, Farnborough Way, Sevenoaks Road, A224 Orpington bypass, London Road, Polhill, B2211 Sundridge Road, Ovenden Road, Chevening Road, A25 Main Road, High Street Brasted
A224 London Road, Riverhead	Between Maidstone Road and Aisher Way	17th & 20th-22nd July 2009 between 20:00 & 05:00	A224 London Road, Morants Court Road, B2211 Sundridge Road, Ovenden Road, Chevening Road, A25 Main Road, Westerham Road, Worships Hill, London Road
Brittains Lane, Sevenoaks	Whole Length	27th July - 4th August 2009 between 08:00 & 17:00	A224 London Road, Tubs Hill, London Road, Tonbridge Road and Oak Lane
A225 Shoreham Road/Station Road Otford	Between Station Road and Otford Village Pond	3rd-7th August 2009 between 20:00 & 05:00	A225 Shoreham Road, Station Road, High Street Eynsford, A20 Main Road Gorse Hill, London Road Wrotham Heath, A25 Maidstone Road, Sevenoaks Road, Borough Green Road, Ightham By-pass, Sevenoaks Road, Maidstone Road, High Street Seal, A225 Otford Road, Sevenoaks Road
Oak Lane, Sevenoaks	Between Gracious Lane Bridge to Brittains Lane	5th-7th & 10th-13th August 2009 between 08:00 & 17:00	Oak Lane, A225 Tonbridge Road, Weald Road, Gracious Lane
A25 Worships Hill, Sevenoaks	Witches Lane to Amherst Hill	13th-14th and 17th-18th August 2009 between 20:00 & 05:00	A25 Westerham Road, A21 Sevenoaks By-pass, A225 Riverhill, Tonbridge Road, A224 London Road, Tubs Hill, London Road, Amherst Hill
In Gravesham			
Huntingfield Road, Meopham	Longfield Road to A227 Wrotham Road	19th-23rd July 2009 between 08:00 & 18:00	Longfield Road, A227 Wrotham Road
The Beeches, Cobham	Sallows Shaw to end	21st -24th July 2009 between 08:00 & 18:00	Road is Cul de Sac no alternative route possible
Sallows Shaw, Cobham	Manor Road to Whitepost Lane	22nd July for 5 working days between 08:00 & 18:00	Manor Road, Sole Street, Round Street, Whitepost Lane
Briar Dale, Higham	Hollytree Drive to Briar Dale	24th July 2009 for 5 working days between 08:00 & 18:00	Road is Cul de Sac no alternative route possible
Evergreen Close, Higham	Hollytree Close to end	24th July 2009 for 5 working days between 08:00 & 18:00	Road is Cul de Sac no alternative route possible
Carton Close, Higham	Hollytree Drive to End	24th July 2009 for 5 working days between 08:00 & 18:00	Road is Cul de Sac no alternative route possible
Bellman Avenue, Gravesend	Abbey Road to to Rochester Road	27th July for 5 working days 08:00 to 18:00	Rochester Road and Abbey Road
Gainsborough Drive, Gravesend	Dene Holm Road to Landseer Drive	28th July for 5 working days 08:00 to 18:00	Landser Avenue, Constable Road and Dene Holm Road
In Dartford			
Northdown Road, Longfield	Whitehill Road to the end	30th July for 5 working days 08:00 to 18:00	Road is Cul de Sac no alternative route possible
Durrant Way, Swanscombe	Manor Road to Leonard Avenue	31st July for 5 working days 08:00 to 18:00	Manor Road, Swanscombe Street, Durrant Way, and Leonard Avenue
Betsham Road, Swanscombe	Manor Road to Leonard Avenue	1st August for 5 working days 08:00 to 18:00	Manor Road, Swanscombe Street, Keary Road
Leonard Avenue, Swanscombe	Durrant Way to Keary Road	2nd August for 5 working days 08:00 to 18:00	Durrant Way, Manor Road, Swanscombe Street, Keary Road
Munford Drive, Swanscombe	Keary Road to Keary Road	4th August for 5 working days 08:00 to 18:00	Keary Road
Keary Road, Swanscombe	Swanscombe Street to Leonard Avenue	5th August for 5 working days 08:00 to 18:00	Manor Road, Swanscombe Street, Durrant Way, Leonard Avenue
Park Road, Swanscombe	Ames Road to Gunn Road	7th August for 5 working days 08:00 to 18:00	Ames Road, Trebble Road and Gunn Road
Green Street Green Road, Darenth	Darenth Hill to Sandbanks Hill	23rd June for 10 nights 20:00 to 05:00	HGV's - Princes Road, A296 Watling Street, A2 Watling Street, Hall Road, New Barn Road, Main Road
Worcester Close, Dartford	The Avenue to the end	22nd June for 4 days 08:00 to 18:00	Road is Cul de Sac no alternative route possible

Highways - Boroughs of Maidstone, Tunbridge Wells and Tonbridge & Malling

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS IN THE BOROUGHS OF MAIDSTONE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS AND TONBRIDGE & MALLING) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the routes described in Column 1 of the Schedule hereto.

The alternative route for each route described in Column 1 of the Schedule hereto is described in Column 3 of that Schedule. Access will be maintained up to the points of closure.

The Order will come into operation on Tuesday 9th June 2009 and will be valid for a maximum period of up to 3 months or until the works have been completed, whichever is sooner. The anticipated dates of works are listed in column 1.

Specified Road and Proposed Start Date and Duration	The Section affected	Alternative routes
C394 Queens Road, Maidstone 20th July 2009 for Duration of 9 Working Days, 07.00 - 19.00	From A26 Tonbridge Road to A20 London Road. When required up to twenty four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	East bound traffic via A26 Tonbridge Road, A20 Terrace Road, and London Road. West bound traffic vice versa
A20 Ashford Road, Maidstone 10th July 2009 for Duration of 5 Working Days, 19.00 - 02.00	From Square Hill Road to New Cut Road. When equired up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	East bound traffic via A249 Andrew Boughton Way, Mote Road, A229 Upper Stone Street., Loose Road, A274 Sutton Road, Willington Street and A20 Ashford Road. Westbound traffic via Willington Street, A274 Sutton Road, A229 Loose Road, Sheals Crescent, Hayle Road, College Road, Palace Avenue, Lower Stone Street, A249 Mote Road and Wat Tyler Way.
C637 New Cut Road, Maidstone 10th July 2009 for Duration of 5 Working Days, 19.00 - 02.00	From A20 Ashford Road to Bearsted Road. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	North bound traffic via A20 Ashford Road, A249 Andrew Boughton Way, Albion Place, Sittingbourne Road and Bearsted Road. South bound traffic vice versa.
White Hill Road, Detling 6th July 2009 for Duration of 3 Working Days, 07.00 - 19.00 hrs	From Matts Hill Road to Magpie Lane. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	East bound traffic via Matts Hill Road, Matts Hill, Yaugher Lane and Magpie Lane. Westbound traffic vice versa.
Conway Road, Maidstone 10th June 2009 for Duration of 11 Working Days. 24 hrs each day work is required.	From A20 London Road to Ash Grove. When required up to twenty four hours per day.	North east bound traffic via Ash Grove and Poplar Grove. South west bound traffic vice versa.
Suffolk Road, Maidstone 17th July 2009 for Duration of 4 Working Days, 07.00 - 19.00	From Cumberland Avenue to Oxford Road. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	East bound traffic via Cumberland Road, Northumberland Road and Oxford Road, Westbound traffic vice versa.
Plains Avenue, Maidstone 6th July 2009 for Duration of 11 Working Days, 07.00 - 19.00	From A274 Sutton Road to Oxford Road. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	East bound traffic via Oxford Road, Northumberland Road and A274 Sutton Road. Westbound traffic vice versa.
A228 Maidstone Road, Paddock Wood 9th June 2009 for a Duration of 11 Working Days, 19.00 - 02.00 hrs	From A228 Whetsted Road to B2017 Badsell Road (To be closed in 4 sections individually, only 1 section to be closed at any one time). Suspension of weight limit on Paddock Wood Railway Bridge No.784 - Network Rail No.277 (ELR PWS1)	A228 Whetsted Road, B2017 Badsell Road and B2160 Maidstone Road.
Glassenbury Road, Cranbrook 22nd June 2009 for a Duration of 4 Working Days, 19.00 - 02.00 hrs	From A262 Goudhurst Road to A229 Hartley Road	A229 Hartley Road, Angley Road, A262 Goudhurst Road and Glassenbury Road.
Woodlands Road, Ditton. 7th July 2009 for Duration of 4 Working Days, 09.00 - 16.30.	From Primrose Close to Birch Crescent	West bound traffic via A20 London Road, New Road. Eastbound traffic vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for carriageway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Neil Tree on 08458 247 800.

Highways - District of Ashford

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(BENTLEY ROAD AND AYLESFORD PLACE, ASHFORD) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of the installation of a new waste water pipeline, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Bentley Road, Ashford, between No.16 and the junction with Hunter Avenue, and Aylesford Place, from 22 June 2009, for an estimated period of two weeks or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Bentley Road, Osborne Road, Breadlands Road, Twelve Acres and Hunter Avenue. There is no alternative route for Aylesford Place, but pedestrian access will be maintained at all times.

Highways - District of Canterbury

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, WHITSTABLE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because gas mains replacement works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Queens Road and Swalecliffe Road, Whitstable, from 8 June 2009, as shown in columns 1 and 2 of the Schedule to this Order. This is for an estimated period of four weeks or until the works are complete.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

The alternative route for through traffic will be as shown in column 3 of the Schedule.

SCHEDULE

Specified Road	Length of road affected	Alternative route
Queens Road, Whitstable	Between the junctions with Wynn Road and Bennells Avenue	Manor Road, Northwood Road and Bennells Avenue
Swalecliffe Road, Whitstable	Between the junctions of Bennells Avenue and St Swithin's Road	Bennells Avenue, Herne Bay Road (eastbound), Tankerton Road (westbound) and St Swithin's Road

Highways - Borough of Dartford

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS IN THE BOROUGH OF DARTFORD) (WAITING RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2009
ROADS TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above named Order, under sections 1, 2, and 124 and Part IV of the road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order introduces no waiting at any times (double yellow lines) on the following lengths of roads;

Name of Road	Length of Road Affected
Station Road, Sutton at Hone	1. On both sides from the junction with Dartford Road for a distance of 16 metres in a westerly direction. 2. On the southern side from the junction Dartford for a distance of 119 metres in an easterly direction.
	3. on the northern side a. from the junction with Dartford Road for a distance of 33 metres in an easterly direction; b from a point 95 metres east of the junction with Dartford Road for a distance of 24 metres in an easterly direction
Dartford Road,	1. On the western side from the centreline of Station Road; Sutton at Hone (i) for a distance of 15 metre in a northerly direction; (ii) for a distance of 75 metres in a southerly direction. 2. On the eastern side from the centreline of Station Road; (i) for a distance of 17 metres in a northerly direction; (ii) for a distance of 59 metres in a southerly direction.
Church Road, Swanscombe	On the western side from a point 4 metres south of the common boundary of Nos 104 and 104a for a distance of 20 metres in a southerly direction.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at of Dartford Borough Council Offices, Civic Centre, Home Gardens, Dartford, DA1 1DR and at Invicta House, Maidstone during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
VARIOUS ROADS, DARTFORD (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is held on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on various roads as noted in Schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 8th June 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last as noted in the attached schedule. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative routes for the routes described above will as noted in the attached schedule.

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate pre-patching works for Kent Highway Services.

Schedule 1

Road Name	Length of Closure	Diversion Route
Durrant Way, Swanscombe from Manor Road to Leonard Avenue	3 weeks	Manor Road, Swanscombe Street, Durrant Way, Leonard Avenue
Keary Road, Swanscombe from Swanscombe Street to Leonard Avenue	3 Weeks	Manor Road, Swanscombe Street, Durrant Way, Leonard Avenue
Leonard Avenue, Swanscombe from Durrant Way to Keary Road	3 Weeks	Durrant Way, Manor Road, Swanscombe Street, Keary Road
Munford Drive, Swanscombe from Keary Road to Keary Road	2 Weeks	Keary Road
Northdown Road, Longfield from Whitehill Road to the End	1 Week	N/A

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
VARIOUS ROADS, GREENHITHE (SWEATSHOP 10KM RUN) (TEMPORARY RESTRICTION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is held on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on various roads as noted in Schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 8th June 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the event will take place on 14th June 2009 between 6am and 10:30am. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

There are no alternative routes for the routes described above.

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate the holding of a running race and to protect the runners.

Schedule 1

B255 St Clement Way, Greenhithe - (one way) traffic prohibited from Bluewater Parkway to A226 London Road

A226 London Road, Greenhithe - (one way) traffic prohibited from A206 St Clement Way to Stone Place Road

B3228 Cotton Lane, Greenhithe - (one way) traffic prohibited from Cotton Lane to A206 Crossways Boulevard

A206 Crossways Boulevard, Greenhithe - (one way) traffic prohibited from B3228 Cotton Lane to A206 St Clements Way

A206 St Clements Way, Greenhithe - (one way) traffic prohibited from A206 Crossways Boulevard to B255 St Clement Way

Highways - Borough of Gravesham

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
VARIOUS ROADS, GRAVESHAM, (TEMPORARY RESTRICTION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on various roads, as noted in schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 22nd June 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last as noted in the attached schedule. These closures and restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative routes for the routes described will be as noted in the attached schedule.

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate Carriageway Repair works.

Schedule 1

Road Name	Extent	Dates	Diversion
Harvel Road, Vigo	Between Whitepost Lane & Eskine Road and Between Eskine Road & Commority Road	22nd June 2009 for 1 week	Waterlow Road and Eskine Road OR White Horse Road, Birling Hill, Stangate Road, Snodland Road, Ryarsh Road, Birling Road, The treet, Woodgate Road, Addington Lane, The Street, Taylors Lane, Vigo Hill, Gravesend Road, Harvel Road
Buckland Road Lockyers Hill, Luddesdown	Cutter Ridge Road to Lockyers Hill Wrangling Lane	29th June 2009 for 3 weeks	Leywood Road, Strawberry Hill, Dean Road, Luddesdown Road and Cutter Ridge Road
Whitepost Lane, Cobham	Copt Hall Road to Round Street	13th July 2009 for 1 week	Copt Hall Road, Round Street

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
VARIOUS ROADS, GRAVESHAM (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is held on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on various roads as noted in Schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 8th June 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last as noted in the attached schedule. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative routes for the routes described above will as noted in the attached schedule.

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate pre-patching works for Kent Highway Services.

Schedule 1

Road Name	Length of Closure	Diversion Route
Sallows Shaw, Meopham from Manor Road to Whitepost Lane	3 weeks	Manor Road, Sole Street, Round Street, Whitepost Lane
Huntingfield Road, Meopham from Longfield Road to Wrotham Road	1 week	Longfield Road, Wrotham Road
Gainsborough Drive, Gravesend from Dene Holm Road to Landseer Avenue	1 Week	Gainsborough Drive, Landseer Avenue
Bellman Avenue, Gravesend from Rochester Road to Gravesend Road	1 Week	Rochester Road, Abbey Road

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
QUEEN STREET, GRAVESEND (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is held on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Queen Street, Gravesend between properties numbered 15-17. This Order will also suspend the one way order on the above road for the duration of the planned works.

The Order will become effective on 25th May 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to take place on 31st May 2009. These closures and restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Parrock Street, Lord Street, Clive Road, Barrack Row, Bath Street, West Street, Crooked Lane, Queen Street.

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate the installation of a new electrical supply.

Highways - Borough of Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(WOOLLEY ROAD, MAIDSTONE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Woolley Road, Maidstone between its northern junction with Willington Street to Graveney Road. This order will come into effect on or after Friday 26th June 2009 for a period of up to 5 months or until such works are completed. During this restriction there will also be no access from Freeman Way onto Woolley Road.

The alternative route for the route described above is for eastbound traffic via Willington Street, Woolley Road and for westbound traffic vice versa. The alternative route for traffic in Freeman Way is via Spencer Way and Willington Street.

Southern Water apologise for any inconvenience caused by this restriction, which is necessary to allow the construction of a flood alleviation scheme in the area. Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Alan Cuxson on 01273 345 200.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS IN TOVIL, MAIDSTONE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Cripple Street, Maidstone from its junction with Broadoak to Teasaucer Hill, the entire lengths of Teasaucer Hill, Bockingford Lane, Hayle Mill Road and Cave Hill. The order will come into effect on or after Monday 22nd June 2009 for a period of up to 6 weeks, as and when indicated by signage on site or until the works are completed.

The alternative route for the routes described above is for westbound traffic via A229 Loose Road, Sheal's Crescent, Hayle Road, B2010 College Road, Tovil Road, Tovil Hill, Straw Mill Hill, Cave Hill, Hayle Mill Road and for eastbound traffic vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for highway improvement works. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Darren Hickman on 08458 247 800.

Highways - District of Shepway

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(BOWDELL LANE, SNARGATE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because electrical cable and ducting works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Bowdell Lane, Snargate from the junction with the B2080 to the junction with Grove Lane, outside and opposite Rose Cottage on 8 June 2009 for an estimated period of 10 working days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via B2080, King Street, Brack Lane and Bowdell Lane.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(C186 ST MARYS ROAD, NEWCHURCH) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because new electrical supply works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on C186 St Marys Road, Newchurch from the junction with The Street to the junction with Pickney Bush Lane, outside Rookland Farm Cottage on or after 25 June 2009 for an estimated period of 7 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via The Street and Gammons Lane.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

Highways - District of Swale

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(ELM LANE, MINSTER-ON-SEA) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because gas mains replacement works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Elm Lane, Minster-on-Sea, between the junction of Chequers Road and 'Little Wootons', on or after 8 June 2009, for an estimated period of 4 weeks or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Chequers Road, Chapel Street, Back Lane, Scocles Road and Nelson Avenue.

Highways - District of Thanet

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(LANTHORNE ROAD, LAKING AVENUE AND KINGS AVENUE, BROADSTAIRS) (EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC REGULATION AND STREET PARKING PLACES) ORDER 2009

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above named Order under Section 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be to introduce double yellow lines (no waiting at any time restriction) on the remaining lengths of the road: -

LANTHORNE ROAD	1. On the northern side from a point 8 metres west (the Eastern end of the bus stop) to a point 14 metres east of the junction with Laking Avenue.
	2. On the southern side from a point 14 metres west to a point 14 metres east of the junction with Kings Avenue.
LAKING AVENUE	On both sides from the junction with Lanthorne Road for a distance of 14 metre in a northerly direction.
KINGS AVENUE	On both sides from the junction with Lanthorne Road for a distance of 14 metres in a southerly direction.

The Order was made on 5 June 2009 and will come into force on 8 June 2009

The Order making authority will be considering in due course whether the provisions of this experimental Order should continue in force indefinitely.

Any alterations to this Order which will render it less restrictive may be authorised by the Highway manager, without the requirement to readvertise the Order, under section 10(2) of the said Act, and after consultation with the chief officer of police.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order, may be examined at the Broadstairs Library, The Broadway, Broadstairs during normal opening times.

Within the period of 6 months of the coming force of the Experimental Traffic Order any person may object to this Order prior to making the Order permanent. If you wish to object to the Experimental Order you should send the grounds for your objection in writing to the Network Performance Manager, Kent Highway Services, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX by noon on Monday 7 December 2009.

Highways - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(STATION ROAD, AYLESFORD) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC & ONE WAY ORDER) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Station Road between Bridge Place and Bailey Bridge Road (at the bridge which crosses the Medway) on or after Monday 22nd June 2009 for a period of up to 1 month or until such works are completed. At weekends traffic will be prohibited in both directions. During the week a one way traffic order will be in place allowing through traffic in a westbound direction only.

The alternative route for the route described above is for eastbound traffic via Hall Road, A20 London Road, Rocky Hill, Broadway, St Peter's Bridge, Fairmeadow, A229 Royal Engineers Road, Running Horse Roundabout, Forstal Road, Bailey Bridge Road and for westbound traffic vice versa.

Ward Homes Ltd apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to provide a pedestrian crossing. Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Bryn Kemp of Peter Brett Associates LLP on 01732 229651.

Highways - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(A26 ST JOHN'S ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on A26 St John's Road, Tunbridge Wells between the junctions of Floyd Close and East Cliff Road on Sundays 21st/28th June and 12th July 2009 for a period of up to 1 day on each occasion or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for southbound through traffic via the A26 St Johns Road (northbound), London Road, Quarry Hill, A2014 Pembury Road, A21 Pembury Road, Tonbridge Road, Pembury Bypass, A264 Pembury Road, Calverley Road, Crescent Road, Church Road and for northbound through traffic vice versa. Also local diversions via other roads will be in place during the restriction.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for carriageway resurfacing. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Julian Cook on 08458 247 800.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE

We Magnolia Restaurants Ltd hereby give notice that we have made an application to the Canterbury City Council at the Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1YW for the grant of a New Premises Licence to incorporate 11, Best Lane, Canterbury, Kent within the ambit of the licence granted to us for the Olive Grove at 12, Best Lane, Canterbury, Kent in respect of the following licensable activities:-

1. sale by retail of alcohol,
2. provision of late night refreshment

In respect of the premises situated at 11 and 12, Best Lane and known by the sign of Olive Grove

The application can be viewed at the offices of the Canterbury City Council at the Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1YW (www.canterbury.gov.uk) during normal office hours.

Any person wishing to make representation concerning this application should do so in writing to the above local authority and within 28 consecutive days of the submission of the application that is no later than 27th June 2009.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. Any person who makes a false statement is liable on summary conviction to a maximum fine of £5,000.

Stephen Thomas LAW, 8, Grassmere, Leybourne, Kent ME19 5QP
Authorised Agents for and on behalf of the applicant.

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS – NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS

The following applications have been submitted to the Council and are being advertised for the reason(s) given in each case.

(A) TM/09/01122/FL & (B) TM/09/01123/LB – Court Farm 100 High Street Aylesford Kent ME20 7AZ – Mr Terry Boyle is applying for conversion including alterations and extensions to 2 no. outbuildings to form holiday let/annex and holiday let (resubmission of (A) TM09/00008/FL & (B) TM09/00009/LB). Reason: LB CA

TM/09/01136/FL – 94 Chapel Street Ryarsh West Malling Kent ME19 5LW – Mr John Dryden is applying for single storey rear/side extension. Reason: CA HH

TM/09/01007/LB – Dukes Place Mereworth Road West Peckham Maidstone Kent ME18 5JH – Mr Alastair Haynes is applying for Listed Building Application: Strip and recover roof to part of the main building using new tiles and incorporating insulation which necessitates alteration to the constructional detail. Reason: CA LB

TM/09/01005/FL – Tara 3 Mill Lane Wateringbury Maidstone Kent ME18 5PE

– Mr S Wiseman is applying for rear extension, internal and external alterations together with a timber shed. Reason: CA HH

TM/09/01049/FL – Lake At Former Holborough Quarry And Adjoining Land Parcel Holborough Road Snodland Kent – Berkeley Homes (Kent) Ltd are applying for change of use of lake to provide leisure activities including scuba diving sailing/boating and swimming Training for triathletes Including access road parking area slipway storage accommodation and changing/toilet facilities. Reason: HA

Reasons for the case being publicised:

LB	Application relates to/affects a Listed Building or its setting
CA	Application is within/affects a Conservation Area
HA	Site is over 1ha.
HH	Householder application - As this is a householder application, in the event of an appeal against a refusal of planning permission, which is to be dealt with on the basis of representations in writing, any representations made about this application will be sent to the Secretary of State, and there will be no further opportunity to comment at appeal stage.

These applications are displayed on our website www.tmbc.gov.uk – click on the button "Online Planning" (then View Existing Applications and select Public Access). You can submit your comments by emailing to planning.applications@tmbc.gov.uk (please quote the application number by the date set out below). Please note that we will publish a copy of any representations received on the Council's website, including your name and address.

Copies of applications listed may be seen during office hours (8.30 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday). Any applications within Hadlow, Hildenborough and Tonbridge are available at Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge. Other applications are available at the office of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ. Any representations should be made in writing quoting the application number by 28 June 2009.

David Hughes
Chief Executive

7 June 2009

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS

KOS MEDIA (PUBLISHING) LTD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Advertisements will be accepted only on the express condition that the advertiser warrants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene any existing legislation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
2. It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising meets all forms of government legislation and KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability in errors and omissions to the content of our media.
3. All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
4. All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement.
5. Any unsuitable material posted on any website belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the advertiser or any associated third party will be removed or refused. All passwords and security supplied to the advertiser by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in relation to the use of the posting of material via the media owner's online administration tool will be the responsibility of the advertiser. The advertiser indemnifies KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd against any damages as a result of misuse of these privileges by either the advertiser or any third party given password privileges by the advertiser.
6. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to change passwords intermittently to ensure the overall and ongoing security of its websites within the public domain.
7. Copyright and licenses for voice-over/music/photography or film for advertising promotions or otherwise within the various forms of media in print, online and moving film owned by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must have been sought, verified or paid for by the advertiser where applicable. Approval or permissions must have been given by any potential beneficial owner voice-over or music. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd.
8. Where shrinkage of an advertisement occurs for whatever reason, the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre where it relates to the media owner's printed publications. This will NOT apply to full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.
9. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to omit or refuse any advertisement/commercial/web content without notice or explanation. In these terms the word "advertiser" shall be construed to include any person or organisation placing an advertisement on behalf of another.
10. A guarantee of insertion cannot be given and the media owners shall not be liable for any loss or damage caused by any error inaccuracy within your marketing content. In no case shall the total liability of the media owner for any error or omission exceed the price charged by the media owners for that advertising.
11. No liability is accepted for any loss or damage alleged to have arisen through delay in forwarding replies to Box numbers, however caused, nor for the loss or damage to any artwork supplied.
12. Claims for any error or inaccuracy in your media messages with KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be made in writing to the accounts department within 10 days of publishing.
13. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions made on their websites by the advertiser.
14. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd has the right to cancel the advertiser's annual membership without notice should the advertiser deliberately publish out of date material or content on any of the media owner's online digital platforms. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd will seek to recover, in full, all outstanding invoices in relation to the signed annual membership as a result of the advertiser's negligence in this regard and reserves the right to claim damages for any potential vexatious action via the advertiser.
15. Advertisers are requested to check their advertisements after the first insertion. The media owner will not be responsible for any errors on subsequent insertions, which have not been advised to them in writing.
16. A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts from KOS Media's standard effective media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009) will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly in line with KOS Media's standard media rate card (effective July 2008-June 2009) and will reflect the revised length of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met in full by the advertiser as per KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009). Discounts will be reapplied and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by either party within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any other advertising placed must give a minimum of seven days' written notice and any discounts given for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
17. Seasonal contracts, Your Professional classified advertisements or any uplift advertising within the annual contract with the advertiser will be invoiced in full - at rate card - on receipt of any written cancellation of this contract within the 12-months.
18. All uplift advertisements must be booked in at least three months in advance of publication and will be subject to availability. All dates booked will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
19. The advertiser must agree to the date and time of filming of any online TV advertising commercial supplied by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd within the advertiser's agreement, (Platinum, Gold, Silver standard of commercial). Should, for any reason, the advertiser not be available at the agreed time without giving sufficient notice (at least 48 hours), KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to charge for any further TV production at its standard published hourly rate should the advertiser still wish to use KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's production services to complete its TV commercial or photographic imagery included in the advertiser's agreement. The advertiser will approve and accept that there are only two choices of voice-over and music offered by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Should an advertiser wish to use other voice-overs or non-copyright free music it is the responsibility of the advertiser to pay the PRS rights should they be required to do so. Any changes to or failure to approve the TV production by the deadlines agreed between both parties will result in KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd being given permission by the advertiser to replace the TV commercial with pictures or stills from a choice of photography supplied by the media owner until the advertiser can supply a TV commercial produced at their own cost and risk outside of this agreement. The advertiser also accepts and agrees that this action would not reduce the value or cost of their membership. Any cost of changes required to the TV commercial throughout the advertiser's agreement will be borne by the advertiser outside of this agreement.
20. Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within their category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc) other than they will be ranked based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
21. Any delivery claims made by the advertiser or discount vouchers published within the print or online media of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd and any action as a result of the public or otherwise is the sole responsibility of the advertiser. Any claims resulting from this via KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be met by the advertiser.
22. a. All credit accounts due for payment shall be notified to the Advertiser by the 30th day following the date of the invoice, time to be of the essence. All sums due to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring shall be paid in full, and the Advertiser shall have no right of set off in any circumstances.
    b. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring by the due date, the media owner shall be entitled to suspend all further advertising until payment is received and/or repudiate the contract and make any surcharges for breaking the contract.
    c. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the due date, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdue balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Westminster Bank Plc from time to time in force.
    d. Not withstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the Advertiser ceasing to use the services of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (for whatever reason), the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.
    e. The Advertiser will be liable for all costs incurred by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.
    f. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
23. Any discount which KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
24. Advertising Agency commission will be allowed to those advertisers recognised by the Newspaper Society, but shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms.
25. All private advertisements and certain categories as laid down by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
26. The Advertiser agrees to indemnify KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owners or any of the companies within the KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
27. An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with them.
28. Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belong to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's written consent.

All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

Effective from June 2008

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New Lexus packs eco-power punch

By **STEVE LOADER**

HYBRID powertrains make more sense on big cars.

These vehicles waste most fuel normally and there is plenty of space for the conventional engine, plus the electric motors and their batteries.

With hybrid market leader Toyota as its parent, it is also not surprising that luxury brand Lexus seized upon this benefit and has now followed a successful first-generation hybrid RX SUV (sports utility vehicle) with an even more efficient version.

The new RX 450h arrives in July (from £41,600) to replace the original 400h and betters that with 10 per cent more power and nearly 30 per cent better fuel economy – it will average around 45mpg to make it the most fuel-efficient SUV on sale.

The 'Lexus Hybrid Drive' mostly swaps between the 3.5-litre V6 petrol and twin electric motors to offer the best fuel consumption, but if the driver's foot demands full throttle then both powertrains can deliver V8 style performance, helped by the fact that electric units provide instant torque or pulling power.

Total power output is 295bhp and this delivers 0-62mph in 7.8 seconds – that beats all Lexus IS saloon derivatives except the barking mad IS-F V8 (4.8 seconds) – and the 450h will go on to 124mph maximum.

And while the heart is won over by straight line 'poke', the brain is working out the financial savings of the hybrid: CO2 emissions of just 148g/km mean that it incurs just £125 in road tax – about the same as a 1.6-litre petrol family hatchback.

Peanuts, you may say on a 40-plus grand car, but this highlights far bigger savings for company car user choosers, who will pay at least half as much BiK (benefit in kind) and other tax on the Lexus as they would on most upmarket rivals.

No wonder the 450h's predecessor quickly shouldered the conventional petrol RX model aside and became the best seller.

It is for the best that the hybrid powertrain is the biggest talking point, since the car's styling is more suited to American tastes than Europe's and the raked rear window robs the car of practicality.

However, Lexus has developed a smart air suspension to give the car more European or tauter handling and allow greater exploitation of the car's all-wheel drive system, helped by a longer wheelbase and wider track than the 400h.

More obvious new tech comes in the form of a fighter plane style 'head-up' display, relaying important information into the driver's line of sight near the base of the windscreen.

In typical Lexus style, the car also comes generously loaded with kit when compared to rivals.

Search online for your new car today
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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

Jaguar's in pursuit

FACED with criminals using the classic Jaguar MkII as a getaway car, many 1960s police forces adopted the 'if you can't beat 'em, join 'em' approach.

Many of the rozzers' woolly Wolseleys were dumped in favour of Jags, beginning a partnership that saw the later XJ series also adopted widely as a police pursuit car.

Jaguar now hopes to extend the relationship by mocking up what is surely the most sharp-suited police motor ever – in the UK at least since we can't compete with Lamborghinis used in extreme situations by Italian police.

The new high performance pursuit vehicle is not only fast, but relatively frugal too since it is based on the Jaguar XF Diesel S.

"Police forces are looking for vehicles that represent value for money, have good environmental credentials and deliver the power and performance required of a pursuit vehicle," said Jaguar UK chief Geoff Cousins.

So the twin turbodiesel XF can average more than 40mpg, but can chase the villains to 60mph in less than six seconds.

Lexus 'roofless' attack

WE are tipped to have our brightest summer in years and Lexus will use it to attack the UK's most aspirational open-top car – the BMW 3-Series Convertible.

Toyota's luxury arm has already made inroads on the Beemer's overall sales through its well-built and temptingly priced IS saloon and will launch the IS250C sometime in July.

We have not seen the car yet in the metal and no prices are being quoted, but the crop top Lexus looks like a neat job and has matched BMW's decision to go for a folding hardtop in the latest version of the '3' unlike Audi, which continues to champion fabric tops on convertibles.

The three-part roof on the IS250 takes just 20 seconds to raise or lower at the touch of a button and Lexus, keen to avoid weakening its reputation for meticulous engineering, will surely have avoided any sign of flexing in the bodywork – the bane of many convertibles and known as 'scuttle shake'.

The open-top Lexus launches with a 204bhp 2.5-litre V6 engine and six-speed automatic transmission and we can expect it to undercut its £33,000 3-Series equivalent.

Don't bet against a cut-price diesel version arriving later though.

Low emission Laguna

JUST two years after launch, Renault has tweaked the third generation Laguna to take account of demand for low emission variants.

So, the hatchback (from £16,795) and Sport Tourer (estate – from £17,795) have had re-works for the 2010 model year launched on July 10, including low emission versions badged 'eco' to compete with the likes of BlueMotion (VW), ECOnetic (Ford) and ecoFlex (Vauxhall).

It also now offers a cut-price factory-fit sat nav developed with Tom Tom.

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Nissan aims high in the city by selling small and cheap

by STEVELOADER

NISSAN'S new city car contender went on sale this week, at a recession-busting lead-in price of £5,995.

Admittedly, that is for the bargain basement Visia version of the new Pixo – you need £6,745 for the well-equipped Acenta expected to win most business.

That £750 upgrade brings side airbags, remote central locking, electric front windows, front fog lamps, colour-coded mirrors plus door handles and the convenience of a 50/50 split folding rear seat – it is amazing how much you can miss the last on a small car with a similarly proportioned boot.

This grade also brings the auto option into play; a self-changer is fast becoming a 'must' for city runabout buyers, but the four-speeder adds a stiff £910 to Pixo prices.

And air con has been omitted from junior Pixos to keep that keen price edge; it comes as standard on the Tekna flagship, but prices then start at £7,745, nearly £2,000 more than the £5,995 lure that got you looking originally.

Nissan dealers should be pleased though, since the Pixo nudges them into a market sector from which they had been excluded.

On the other hand, they might have preferred a stand-alone product of better quality that is more than simply a re-badged Suzuki Alto – these two clones are both built by Suzuki's Indian subsidiary Maruti.

Such partnerships are not unusual at this end of the market where margins are tight: Suzuki already sells the Splash supermini/MPV and this has been cloned as the Vauxhall Agila.

And the Toyota Aygo/Citroën C1/Peugeot 107 triplets have been a big success in this market sector.

So, apart from editing the Alto's front and rear ends, Nissan has taken the easy route into a sector booming in the recession and as pressure mounts to cut emissions and running costs.

And the Pixo fits the bill with that auto option, five doors and 67bhp three-cylinder one-litre engine capable of averaging 64mpg.

The really cost-conscious will be miffed that the Pixo's 103g/km of CO_2 emissions means that it cannot quite slip past the 100 mark exempting it from road tax altogether – it costs £35/year to keep on the road.

And you also get what you pay for in terms of driver enjoyment: the gear ratios are well spaced to give the car the ability to tackle motorways, but it makes the car breathless in town unless you twirl the stick a lot and then the engine really lets you know how noisy it can be.

Interior finish is also basic though we can expect the Japanese design and technology – albeit Suzuki rather Nissan – to be robust.

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Price comparisons based on a 2004 Peugeot 206 1.4 petrol model, competitors prices taken from their web sites, comparison prices correct on 08/05/09, prices do not take into account any local special offers.

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Offer ends 30th June 2009.

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*Discount price of £4,295 relates to Matiz 0.8 S model only (for Aveo 1.2 S 3dr £5,765). Vehicles shown feature metallic paint available at extra cost (Matiz £325 and Aveo £350). 3 years 30,000 miles Fixed Price Service Package at an optional cost of £249. The savings are against current man. rec. price and available on UK supplied vehicles ordered and registered before 30th June 2009. Prices correct at time of press. At participating retailers only. †£2,000 scrappage towards a new car is offered on condition that the car must have been registered on or before 31st August 1999 and have been registered in your name for at least 1 year and the registration document must be in your name and address. A valid MOT, current road tax and insurance for legal driving on the road is required at point of order. Vehicle must be clear of finance and traded in vehicle must be UK specification. For further details on the scrappage programme visit www.chevroletscrappageprogramme.co.uk. Extra savings provided by Chevrolet UK Ltd only. Offer ends 30th June 2009 available for a limited period outside the remit of the government scrappage scheme. Excludes Isle of Man and Channel Islands.

Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Aveo 1.2 S 3dr: Urban – 39.2 (7.2), Extra-urban – 61.4 (4.6), Combined – 51.4 (5.5). CO_2 emissions 132g/km. Matiz 0.8 S 5dr: Urban - 43.5 (6.5), Extra-urban - 68.9 (4.1), Combined - 56.5 (5.0). CO_2 emissions 119g/km.

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USED CARS

AGILA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
04	54	Agila Design	1.2	5	Lilac	28,500	4,195

ASTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
02	02	Astra Club Auto	1.6	5	Mirage	51,000	3,495
05	05	Astra Enjoy (old style)	1.6	5	Star silver	15,450	4,995
06	06	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Rubens red	22,021	8,195
06	06	Astra Design Estate	1.6	5	Pannacotta	34950	7,195
06	56	Astra Elite CDTi	1.9	5	Ultra blue	37,950	8,995
06	56	Astra club	1.6	5	Silver Lightning	45400	6,995
07	07	Astra Sri TBO	1.6	5	Black sapphire	14,600	8,995
07	07	Astra Design Sports hatch	1.6	3	Power red	26,340	8,995
07	57	Astra Club CDTi Est	1.3D	5	Panacotta	8,275	8,995
08	08	Astra Breeze Sports hatch	1.4	3	Star silver	2,110	9,495
08	58	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Green spirit	3,725	11,495
08	58	Astra Club CDTi Estate	1.7D	5	Technical grey	14,450	10,995
08	58	Astra Sri Sports hatch	1.6	3	Silver lightening	6,650	10,995
08	58	Astra Breeze	1.4	5	Black sapphire	4,600	9,995
08	58	Astra Breeze Sports hatch	1.4	3	Black sapphire	3,100	10,795

CORSA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
03	03	Corsa Active	1.0	3	Silver lightning	55000	3,850
06	06	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	5	Black sapphire	37,950	6,295
06	06	Corsa 1.2 SXI Plus	1.2	3	Flame red	18000	5,995
08	08	New Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Metro blue	5,200	9,995
08	08	New Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	5,150	8,895
08	58	New Corsa Sxi CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	4,200	9,995
08	58	New Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	3	Star silver	5,100	9,395
08	58	New Corsa Design	1.2	3	Star silver	4,640	9,495
08	58	New Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	3	Silver lightening	3,675	9,295
08	58	New Corsa Club CDTi	1.3D	5	Star silver	3,325	9,995
08	58	New Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	4,380	9,995
08	58	New Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	3	Metro blue	6,100	9,995

MERIVA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
08	8B	Meriva CDTi Breeze Plus	1.3	5	Black sapphire	10,930	11495

VECTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
05	55	Vectra Exclusiv	1.8	5	Metro Blue	22500	5,995
08	57	Vectra CDTi Exclusive Auto	1.9D	5	Ultra blue	5,870	10,995
08	58	Vectra Elite CDTi (150ps)	1.9D	5	Panacotta	7,050	14,995

ZAFIRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
03	53	Zafira GSI	2.0	5	Star Silver	44900	5,995
05	55	Zafira Life	1.6	5	Moonland	28,500	5,495
07	07	Zafira Energy CDTi	1.9	5	Black Sapphire	24000	9,995
08	58	Zafira Breeze CDTi Plus	1.9D	5	Metro blue	12,600	13995

NON VAUXHALL

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
04	54	Kia Picanto	1.1	5	Blue	42,900	3,295

DUE SOON

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
01	Y	Corsa Comfort MTA	1.2	3	Star silver	27000	2,995
05	05	Corsa Design	1.4	5	Star silver	29,000	5,395
05	55	Corsa Sxi E/T	1.3	3	Black	50,000	4,995
06	06	Astra Design Auto	1.8	5	Panacotta	27,900	7,395
06	06	Astra Design Estate	1.6	5	Panacotta	33,000	6,995
07	57	Astra VXR	2.0	3	Power red	16,500	13,995
08	57	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Black sapphire	8,000	9,995
08	08	Astra Sxi Sports hatch (Ex pack)	1.6	3	Ultra blue	9,000	10,995
08	08	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Black sapphire	16,000	9,995
06	06	Meriva Life A/c	1.4	5	Star silver	30,000	6,495
04	04	Vectra Sri Auto	2.2	5	Star silver	48,000	4,995
06	06	Vectra Design Est	1.8	5	Star silver	37,500	7,495

COMPANY OWNED VEHICLES - CARS

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
08	58	Agila Design	1.2	5	Steel silver		8,995
08	58	Agila Design	1.2	5	Moroccan blue		8,995
08	58	Agila Club A/c CDTi	1.3D	5	Steel silver		9,995
08	58	Agila Club	1.2	5	Moroccan blue		8,595
08	58	Agila Club A/c	1.2	5	Steel Silver		8,795
08	58	Corsa Club MTA	1.2	3	Silver lightening		8,495
08	58	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	5	Silver lightening		9,695
08	58	Corsa Club Auto	1.4	5	Ultra blue		9,995
08	58	Corsa Design	1.2	3	Black sapphire		9,245
08	58	Astra Exclusiv T/T	1.8	2	Panacotta		14,995
08	58	Astra Club CDTi Estate	1.7D	5	Technical grey		11,995
08	58	Vectra Exclusiv CDTi (150ps)	1.9D	5	Panacotta		10,995
08	58	Vectra Exclusive CDTi (150ps)	1.9D	5	Black sapphire		10,995

COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

ASTRAVAN

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
08	08	Astravan SE Sportive	1.9D		Star silver	5,760	10995+VAT
08	08	Astravan Club Plylined	1.7D		White	7,000	8,995+VAT

COMBO

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
07	07	Combo Crew van, PAS	1.3D		White	8,700	7,995+VAT
08	08	Combo Air con, e/windows	1.3D		Silver	1,218	7,995+VAT
08	08	Combo CDTi	1.3D		White	19,500	6995+VAT
08	08	Combo CDTi	1.3D		White	4,250	7,995+VAT

MOVANO

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
06	56	Movano CDTi LWB 100bhp	2.5		Silver	19,700	9,995+VAT
07	57	Movano CDTi Long w/base	2.50		White	10,300	12,995+VAT
08	08	Movano CDTI Bulkhead	2.5		White	11,050	11,995+VAT
08	08	Movano Long wheel base	2.5D		White	6,460	13,995+VAT

VIVARO

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
05	55	Vivaro Long wheel base	1.9D		Red	57,500	8,995+VAT
07	57	Vivaro CDTi Short w/base	1.9		White	12,100	9,495+VAT
08	08	Vivaro CDTI Plylined, LWB	2.0		White	5,050	10,995+VAT
08	08	Vivaro CDTI Plylined, SWB	2.0		White	16,050	9,795+VAT
08	08	Vivaro CDTI Tech shift	2.5		Star silver	3,190	15,995+VAT
08	08	Vivaro CDTi Plylined, SWB	2.0		White	16,650	9,795+VAT

COMPANY OWNED VEHICLES - VANS

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
08	08	Corsa van Sportive CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver		7,995+VAT
08	58	Combo CDTi	1.7D	5	White		7,995+VAT
08	08	Vivaro SWB CDTi	2.0D	5	White		9,995+VAT
08	08	Vivaro SWB CDTi	2.0D	5	White		9,995+VAT
08	08	Vivaro SWB CDTi	2.0D	5	White		9,995+VAT
08	58	Vivaro SWB CDTi	2.0D	5	Ink Blue		11,995+VAT
08	58	Vivaro Sportive CDTi	2.0D	5	Star silver		14,995+VAT
08	58	Movano MWB H/R	2.5	5	White		12,995+VAT

PRE-REG VEHICLES

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
08	58	Corsavan CDTi CD Player	1.3		White	Delivery	£6,995+VAT
07	57	Combo CDTi PAS	1.3		White	Delivery	£7,495+VAT
08	08	Vivaro CDTi SWB, 90BHP	2.0		White	Delivery	£10,295+VAT,
08	08	Vivaro CDTI 115bhp, sportive	2.0		Black	Delivery	£11,495+VAT
08	58	Vivaro CDTI Sportive	2.0		Silver	Delivery	£13,995+VAT
08	58	Vivaro CDTI SWB, Air con	2.0		Ink Blue	Delivery	£11,995+VAT

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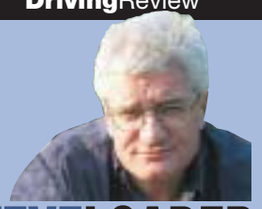
DrivingReview



by STEVE LOADER
CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

HondaJazz

Tuning up for a

WORKERS returned to Honda's Swindon plant on Monday after a four-month shutdown.

Widely seen as a sign of the UK recession biting the Japanese carmaker quickly and deeply, I judged it shrewder than staying open and selling cars at a loss thereby undermining long-term second-hand values.

Honda has worked hard to be mentioned in the same breath as BMW and company – trashing residuals would do exactly the opposite.

While Swindon has been closed, cutting car output from a projected 228,000 to just 175,000 units in this financial year, Honda has been free to streamline existing assembly lines for the Civic and CR-V and install another without potential disruption from ongoing production – also forgotten in that early recession hysteria.

This new line starts production this autumn of the brilliant five-door Jazz supermini/MPV, launched last year.

It is fitting that the economical and versatile Jazz should be some good that has come from the recession-induced shutdown – surely, the very car to suit tougher motoring times?

Building the Jazz in the UK will not only cater for a recession-led 'Buy British' trend, but also pave the way for more aggressive marketing; with the import overheads of former Far East supplies also subject to the usual tight margins on small cars, Honda dealers had been unable to make offers on top of the car's other attractions.

This helped wed the Jazz to a laudable, but limiting customer base: cash-rich older buyers who like Honda dependability, but alienate younger would-be buyers by saddling the car with a 'senior' image.

Some 60 per cent of buyers for the 2002 original were aged 56-75, but even Honda says it wants younger buyers and could clean-up – half of Jazz customers buy another and its reliability, customer satisfaction and depreciation records are impressive.

It could be the right car too, as people aim to save on higher fuel and tax costs, plus downsize without loss of space.

The second generation Jazz looks lower and wider with much of the effect coming from simply double-creasing the bonnet to reverse the pinching effect of the old car's single crimp.

The interior was never poor, but looks a class above now while the 'magic' rear seats have

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Motability

Vehicles shown feature metallic paint available at extra cost (Matiz £325, Aveo £350, Captiva £400). 3 years/30,000 miles full service package at an optional cost (Matiz and Aveo £249, Captiva £349). Available at participating retailers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers. Savings against current man. rec. price at time of publication and available on UK supplied vehicles ordered and registered before 30th June 2009. Prices correct at time of press. (Chev73029)

Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Aveo 1.2 S 3dr: Urban - 39.2 (7.2), Extra-urban - 61.4 (4.6), Combined - 51.4 (5.5). CO_2 emissions 132g/km. Captiva 2.4 Petrol LS 5-seat: Urban - 23.5 (12.0), Extra-urban - 39.8 (7.1), Combined - 31.7 (8.9). CO_2 emissions 217g/km. Matiz 0.8 S 5dr: Urban - 43.5 (6.5), Extra-urban - 68.9 (4.1), Combined - 56.5 (5.0). CO_2 emissions 119g/km.

British Jazz age

been refined and carried over; the bases flip up for extra stowage on the floor and with both sides fastened back you could even load a bike crossways. The backs also fold flat to create a cavernous load area.

Other nips and tucks are better visibility out of the front quarterlight area, standard fit height adjustment on the driver's seat – it might be supermini-size, but you can now have a higher MPV-style driving position – and further improvement to the ride quality.

Despite a relatively high body, the Jazz always could be pushed hard on a challenging road yet does not have such a harsh ride now; a friend now regularly forsakes his BMW 320d to enjoy the Jazz bought primarily for his wife's use.

Both petrol engines are refined, lively and frugal enough to cover the omission of a diesel – the company hints at a future hybrid option instead. It is a tough call for best buy; the 1.2-litre entry unit tested here (from £9,990) does it all, but the 1.4 model (£11,490) has extra comforts and can be specc'd with the clever all-new i-Shift automated manual transmission – far better than the old CVT (continuously variable transmission) auto 'box on the previous Jazz.

The new arrangement is superior and even undercuts fuel consumption of the standard manual and rivals the 1.2 unit, while reducing CO2 emissions to 125g/km.

DrivingStats

- Honda Jazz 1.2 SE £10,990
- Range: £9,990-13,160
- Garage stats: 3.9m by 1.69m five-door supermini/MPV
- Powertrain: 1,198cc/89bhp four-cylinder petrol engine driving front wheels through a five-speed manual gearbox
- Performance: top speed 110mph and 0-62mph in 12.5 seconds
- How green?: group D (£120/year) road tax - 125g/km CO2 emissions
- Official fuel figures: combined 53.3mpg
- Euro NCAP safety rating (0-5 stars): n/a
- Fuel tank: 42 litres/9.2gallons
- Insurance group: 4
- Warranty: three years/90,000miles.
- Website: www.honda.co.uk
- Rivals: Daihatsu Materia or Sirion (also sold as Perodua Myvi and Subaru Justy), Kia Rio, Mercedes-Benz A-Class, Mitsubishi Colt, Nissan Note, Peugeot 207SW, Renault Modus, Skoda Fabia or Roomster, Suzuki Splash, Toyota Yaris and Vauxhall Agila

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2000 RENAULT RXE1.6L, 83,549 miles, insurance group 8E, EM, EW, aircon, CL, airbags, twin sunroof **£2995**

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C3, 1.1i Desire 5dr, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd. insurance group:2, blue, 16453 miles, £4795, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

FIAT

GRANDE PUNTO, gd08axs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, remote locking. blue, 7500 miles, £6995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

FORD

C-MAX, 1.6TDCi Zetec 5dr, ap08nnf, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, 17 alloy upgrade, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coding body, driver airbag, electric mirrors, foglights, front armrest, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, grey, 28102 miles, £11495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

C-MAX, 1.8 Titanium 5dr, balance of 3 year warranty, abs, air con, alloys, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, folding rear seats, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking. insurance group:8, silver, 26251 miles, £11995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

C-MAX, 1.8TDCi Titanium 5dr, SPORT PACK 3, ng08hhr, balance of 3 year warranty, 18 alloys, rain sensing wipers, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking. insurance group: 8, grey, 25693 miles, £13995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Studio 3dr, bg08xcs, metallic moondust. abs, central locking, driver airbag, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cassette, rear headrests, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year. insurance group:3, silver, 12758 miles, £7495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 5dr [Climate], air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, contact the used car team for more help, with over 400 ford cars in stock today. insurance group:4, black, 8546 miles, £8995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 TDCi Zetec S 3dr, 17 WHEEL UPGRADE, air con, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, all vehicles come with balance of year, contact the used car team for more help, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, bluetooth with usb, 17 alloy upgrade, rain sensing wipers, adjustable seats, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, bluetooth handsfree and voice control. insurance group:4, grey, 3500 miles, £13995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Zetec S 3dr, metallic moondust. abs, air con, alloys, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, sports seats, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, contact the used car team for more help, with over 400 ford cars in stock today. silver, 9787 miles, £9495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 5dr [Climate], air con, alloys, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year. insurance group: 5, black, 14084 miles, £8995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Ghia 5dr, ef08jbv, metallic amethyst. abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, rain sensing wipers, adjustable steering column/wheel, child locks, colour coding body, locking wheel nuts, metallic paintwork, purple, 10229 miles, £8695, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 3dr [82], gk09ofd, metallic vision. abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, all vehicles come with balance of year, contact the used car team for more help, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, central locking, colour coding body, heated screen, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, power assisted steering. insurance group:4, blue, 3000 miles, £11995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 5dr [Climate], SPORT AND TECH PACK****, bv58hxn, metallic amethyst. abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, power folding door mirrors, rain sensing wipers, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, metallic paintwork, mauve, 13449 miles, £9495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Studio 5dr, nl58ewv, central locking, driver airbag, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cassette, rear headrests, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year. insurance group:3, blue, 11358 miles, £7995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Van 1.4i Tdci Duratorq, gl09smc, panel van, frozen. remote locking, finance available, full dealer facilities, cd player, electric windows. white, 100 miles, £7995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Style 3dr Auto [Climate], gj06vmy, metallic chill. abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, 1 year warranty and roadside assistance. insurance group:7, red, 21034 miles, £6995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 TDCi Zetec 3dr [Climate], gn57nwo, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, central locking, colour coding body, heated screen. insurance group:6, black, 11066 miles, £8890, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Style 5dr [Climate], bf58jdj, metallic moondust. abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year. insurance group:4, silver, 12637 miles, £8495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 3dr [Climate], gj57enw, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year. insurance group:4, silver, 16030 miles, £7495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 5dr [Climate], metallic panther. abs, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year. insurance group:5, black, 10147 miles, £9495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi Zetec 5dr - (Climate), adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, call les bellchambers 01474 537 537. insurance group:5, blue, 15570 miles, £9495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 3dr [Climate] - SPORT & TECH PACK, wm08gyz, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, folding mirrors, privacy glass, call les bellchambers 01474 537 537. insurance group:4, black, 11500 miles, £8495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 3dr [Climate] - SPORT & TECH PACK, wm08gwo, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, call les bellchmabers 01474 537 537. insurance group:4, silver, 11513 miles, £8495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 5dr [Climate] - SPORT & TECH PACK, ad08xso, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, auto headlights, auto wipers, folding mirrors, privacy glass, sport pack, tech pack, call les bellchambers 01474 537 537. insurance group:5, blue, 13943 miles, £8995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Ghia 5dr - LEATHER, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, call les bellchambers 01474 537 537. insurance group:5, red, 9757 miles, £9495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Zetec S 3dr - TECH PACK, auto wipers, abs, air con, alloys, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, call les bellchmabers 01474 537 537. insurance group:7, silver, 9761 miles, £8995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 2.0 TDCi Titanium 5dr, SPORTS PACK BLUETOOTH, air con, alloys, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, sports seats, bluetooth handsfree and voice control, 18 alloys, 2yrs roadside assistance, bluetooth handsfree, ford direct vehicle, sports pack, central locking, colour coding body, heated screen, metallic paintwork. insurance group: 10, silver, 10065 miles, £13995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Titanium 5dr, gd08cuu, air conditioning, alloy wheels, electric windows, side airbags, radio/cd, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, central locking. insurance group:7, blue, 26253 miles, £10395, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 TDCi Zetec 5dr, air con, alloy wheels, side airbags, radio/cd, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, front armrest, headlight washers, folding rear seats, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio, spoiler. insurance group:7, silver, 26974 miles, £10695, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 TDCi Zetec 5dr, nc08xkp, air conditioning, alloy wheels, side airbags, radio/cd, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, balance of 3 year warranty, 2yrs roadside assistance, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, child locks, climate control, colour coding body, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, heated screen, immobiliser, power assisted steering. insurance group:7, black, 15083 miles, £11295, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 TDCi Titanium 5dr, ca08onx, metallic avalon. abs, air conditioning, alloy wheels, electric windows, side airbags, radio/cd, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, balance of 3 year warranty, 18 alloys, privacy glass, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, electric mirrors, foglights, front armrest, heated screen, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, radio. insurance group:7, blue, 27500 miles, £12995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 TDCi Zetec 5dr, nc08rhe, metallic vision. abs, air conditioning, alloy wheels, side airbags, radio/cd, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, contact the used car team for more help, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, child locks, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, metallic paintwork, power assisted steering, remote locking. insurance group:7, blue, 16304 miles, £10995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 TDCi LX 5dr, kd06alu, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help. insurance group:6, silver, 46936 miles, £7495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec 5dr [Climate pack**23000 MILE ESTATE **, nd55uwa, metallic moondust. abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, roof rails, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, 1 year warranty and roadside assistance. insurance group:5, silver, 23678 miles, £6995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 TDCi Titanium 3dr, gn08acv, air conditioning, alloy wheels, electric windows, side airbags, radio/cd, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, balance of 3 year warranty. insurance group:7, grey, 11426 miles, £11995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 2.5 ST 500 5dr, SPECIAL EDITION, gj08mwv, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, headlight washers, folding rear seats, leather seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd multichanger, rear headrests, sports seats, traction control, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, bluetooth handsfree and voice control, sony 6cd player, balance of 3 year warranty, 18 alloys, bluetooth handsfree, park assist, rain sensing wipers, rear park assist, xenons, body kit, cd multichanger, central locking, colour, black, 16500 miles, £15495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 TDCi Titanium 5dr, gj08wnl, air conditioning, alloy wheels, electric windows, side airbags, radio/cd, excellent prices paid for part exchanges, low finance rates available, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year. insurance group:7, blue, 14283 miles, £11300, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

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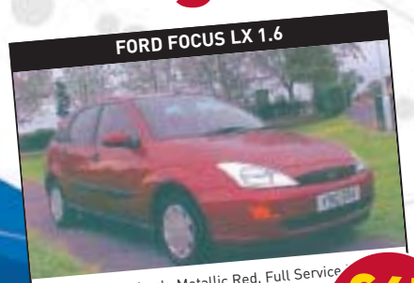

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FORD

FUSION, 1.4 Style 5dr [Climate], air con, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year. insurance group: 5, blue, 8390 miles, £7995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FUSION, 1.6 Zetec 5dr Auto [Climate], fv06yds, metallic amethyst. abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, call les bellchmabers 01474 537 537. insurance group:6, mauve, 17085 miles, £6495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3i Zetec [70] 3dr [Climate], lv08jwe, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, remote locking, rear headrests, call les bellchambers 01474 537 537. insurance group:4, blue, 4701 miles, £5995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3 TDCi Zetec 3dr, gf58zdw, metalliccdive, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, foglights, folding rear seats, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, central locking, privacy glass, adjustable seats, alloy wheels, child locks, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, remote locking. insurance group:2, blue, 2500 miles, £9995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

KUGA, 2.0 TDCi Titanium 5dr, 19 ALLOY WHEEL UPGRADE, alloys, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, traction control, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, itanium convenience pack, bluetooth handsfree and voice control, electric seats, full heated leather trim, panoramic roof, full leather, park assist, parking sensors, power folding door mirrors, rain sen, white, 1000 miles, £21995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.0 TDCi Titanium 5dr Auto, auto headlights, esp, bluetooth with voice control, abs, air con, alloys, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, electrically adjustable seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd multichanger, rear headrests, sports seats, traction control, call les bellchmabers 01474 537 537. insurance group:9, black, 21000 miles, £14495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 1.8 TDCi Zetec 5dr [6], air cond, alloys, anti theft system, central locking, cloth upholstery, climate control, colour coding body, colour coding interior, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, multi function steering wheel, power assisted steering, radio/cd, call les bellchmabers 01474 537 537. insurance group:7, silver, 12211 miles, £14295, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 1.8 TDCi Titanium 5dr [6] - SPORTS PACK & PRIVACY, bluetooth voice control, park assist, privacy glass, sony stereo, abs, air con, alloys, central locking, climate control, colour coding body, colour coding interior, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, heated screen, metallic paintwork, multi function steering wheel, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, tinted glass, traction control, 01474 537 537. insurance group:8, black, 12944 miles, £15995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.0 TDCi Titanium 5dr, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, electrically adjustable seats, head restraints, folding rear seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd multichanger, rear headrests, sports seats, traction control, call les bellchmabers 01474 537 537. insurance group:9, silver, 19351 miles, £14995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.0 Zetec 5dr - AUTO - SOLD, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, electrically adjustable seats, head restraints, folding rear seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, call les bellchmabers 01474 537 537. insurance group:10, silver, 36462 miles, £5995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER, Pick Up XLT Thunder Double Cab 3.0TDCi 4WD, 156 bhp, cat 1 alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, warrantied mileage. 5 seater, silver, 10 miles, £13499, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER, TIPPER, ac58efw, 143 ps, tipper, max weight 875 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, warrantied mileage, white, 25 miles, £10959, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER, THUNDER - NO VAT-LEATHER, lv56alo, double cab, alloy wheels, cat 1 alarm, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, warrantied mileage, silver, 29480 miles, £9999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER, Pick Up XLT Thunder Double Cab TD 4WD, 143 bhp, double cab, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg. alloy wheels, cat 1 alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, warrantied mileage. 5 seater, brand new 09 -not pre-reg.please call steve wales in our commercial department contract hire available from, black, 5 miles, £11999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER, Pick Up XLT Leather Thunder Double Cab TD 4WD, lv58kmz, 56 ps, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, cat alarm, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, one tax, warrantied mileage, reverse parking sensors. 5 seater, 20 alloy wheels please call steve wales in our commercial department, silver, 1005 miles, £12995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER, Pick Up Wildtrak Double Cab 3.0TDCi 4WD, 156 ps, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg. alloy wheels, cat 1 alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, warrantied mileage. 5 seater, blue, 8 miles, £13999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

S-MAX, 2.0 TDCi Titanium 5dr, gn08ekh, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, electrically adjustable seats, head restraints, folding rear seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, park distance control, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd multichanger, rear headrests, sports seats, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, contact the used car team for more help, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, park assist, privacy glass, rain sensing wipers, air conditioning, central locking, child seats, colour coding body, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, metallic paintwork, multi function steeri, black, 10979 miles, £15995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, Ex/F Luton TDi *****LUTON TRANSIT******, nj06jhu, luton van, 1 year warranty and roadside assistance, factory fitted bulk head, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, white, 46729 miles, £8995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, High Roof Van L TDCi 90ps**NO VAT NO VAT NO VAT**, lm05cfg, panel van, 1 year warranty and roadside assistance, finance available, full dealer facilities. white, 41666 miles, £5495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, LWB High Roof Van 2.4TDCi T350, wr56uwv, panel van, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, pcp, ply lined, white, 40211 miles, £9995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, Medium Roof Van 280MWB Limited 2.2L 115ps, gl09smc, panel van, remote locking, heated drivers seat, cd player, cruise control, alloy wheels, heated screen, electric mirrors, electric windows, bluetooth, full dealer facilities. silver, 100 miles, £15995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, 260 SWB Low Roof Van TDCi, af07muv, panel van, finance available, full dealer facilities, pcp, warranty. white, 32295 miles, £8995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, 280 SWB Low Roof Van 2.0, na55ebo, panel van, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, ply lined, swb, warranty. white, 18036 miles, £6495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, Low Roof Van TD 115PS******ONLY 14 MILES*****, aj09aev, 115 ps, panel van, remote locking, finance available, full dealer facilities, swb. 3 seater, white, 14 miles, £10995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, Low Roof Van TDi 85ps, ng06lxr, 85 ps, panel van, max weight 2800 kg, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, ply bulkhead, ply lined, swb, warranty, warrantied mileage, white, 32000 miles, £5999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, Low Roof Van TDCi 115ps 6 Speed, white, 15 miles, £10999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, Low Roof Van TDi 140ps Air Con., 140 ps, panel van, max weight 2800 kg. alloy wheels, cat 1 alarm, factory fitted bulk head, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, swb, warranty. 3 seater, limited model air conditioning-please call steve wales, silver, 10 miles, £14999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, High Roof Air Con Van TDi 115ps, 115 ps, panel van, max weight 3500 kg, factory fitted bulk head, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, ply lined, warranty, warrantied mileage, reverse parking sensors. 3 seater, white, 31243 miles, £10999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, 350 MWB Medium Roof Van TDCi 115ps, 115 ps, panel van, max weight 3500 kg. factory fitted bulk head, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty. 3 seater, white, 8 miles, £12999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, 280 SWB Low Roof Van TDi 85ps, 85 ps, panel van, max weight 2800 kg. factory fitted bulk head, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, swb, warranty. 3 seater, white, 9 miles, £10999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

TRANSIT CONNECT, gl09smc, panel van, cd player, remote locking, finance available, full dealer facilities, pcp, swb. white, 50 miles, £7995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

TRANSIT CONNECT, gl09smc, panel van, cd player, remote locking. white, 100 miles, £9995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

HONDA

CIVIC, 2.2 i-CTDi Sport 5dr, oe56ewl, adjustable seats, alloy wheels, climate control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, front armrest, head restraints, headlight washers, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, traction control. insurance group:10, silver, 31000 miles, £10995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

HYUNDAI

GETZ, 1.1 GSI 3dr, gf05cwu, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric windows, immobiliser, passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering. insurance group:3, red, 40000 miles, £3295, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

KIA

PICANTO, 1.1 LS 5dr, gj57cdu, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, central locking, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:3, red, 19232 miles, £4295, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

MAZDA

BT-50, lx08ymg, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, warrantied mileage, silver, 3468 miles, £7999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

MERCEDES-BENZ

A150, 3 DOOR Classic SE, 2008, polar silver metallic, 4000 miles, £12460, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

A150, 5 DOOR Classic SE, 2009, polar silver metallic, 5000 miles, £15332, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

A150, 3 DOOR Classic SE, 2008, polar silver metallic, 7625 miles, £10380, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

A150, Classic SE Manual 5 DR Classic SE, 2006, atoll blue metallic, 17200 miles, £9250, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

A150, 5 DOOR Classic SE, 2009, cosmos black metallic, 3000 miles, £14998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

A150, 3dr Classic SE, 2009, mountain grey metallic, 3000 miles, £13998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

A150, 5 DOOR Elegance SE, 2009, steppe brown metallic, 3000 miles, £16498, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

A150, 5 DOOR Classic SE, 2009, mountain grey metallic, 4000 miles, £14712, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

A150, Elegance 3 door, 2007, saturn red, 16000 miles, £10390, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

A150, 3dr Classic SE, 2009, lotus blue metallic, 5000 miles, £14994, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

A180 CDI, 5 DOOR Avantgarde SE, 2008, polar silver metallic, 8900 miles, £13690, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

A180 CDI, 5 DOOR Elegance SE, 2009, horizon blue metallic, 2000 miles, £16980, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

A200 CDI, Avantgarde SE Auto 3 DR Avantgarde SE, 2006, polar silver metallic, 30000 miles, £9997, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

B150, SE, 2009, cosmos black metallic, 5000 miles, £18947, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

B150, MAV SE, 2007, comet grey metallic, 11310 miles, £12998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

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2002 52 SAAB 9-5 2.3HOT Aero, 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Petrol, 63,260 miles, Steel Grey. ABS, Alloys, Cruise control, Heated seats, Full Electric pack, Park distance control, Remote locking, Side airbags, Sports seats, Traction control, Climate control, In Car Entertainment, Warranty, Leather upholstery, Met paintwork, Tinted glass **£5,495**

2005 55 RENAULT Scenic 1.4 Dynamique, 5 Doors, Manual, Estate, Petrol, 29,889 miles, Metallic Green. Rear wiper, Air conditioning, Heated door mirrors, Lumbar support, Side airbags, Front electric windows, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, ABS, Cloth seat trim, Isofix child seat anchor points, Front fog lights, Passenger airbag, Remote central locking, Drivers airbag, Trip computer, Alarm, Body coloured bumpers, PAS. Insurance Group:4 ..... **£5,000**

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B180 CDI, MAV SE, 2008, horizon blue metallic, 11116 miles, £16900, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

B180 CDI, MAV Sport, 2008, polar silver metallic, 8731 miles, £18300, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

B180 CDI, MAV SE, 2008, atoll blue metallic, 17547 miles, £15590, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

B180 CDI, MAV SE, 2009, polar silver metallic, 4000 miles, £18980, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

B180 CDI, MAV Sport, 2008, cosmos black metallic, 10067 miles, £17995, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

B180 CDI, Sport, 2009, lotus blue metallic, 3500 miles, £19997, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

C180 KOMPRESSOR, 2008, iridium silver metallic, 18500 miles, £20494, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

C180 KOMPRESSOR, 2008, palladium silver metallic, 1845 miles, £24498, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

C180 KOMPRESSOR, 2006, jasper blue metallic, 32254 miles, £10998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

C180 KOMPRESSOR, 2008, tenorite grey metallic, 11770 miles, £21580, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

C180 KOMPRESSOR, 2008, iridium silver metallic, 1936 miles, £21490, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

C200, Sport, 2008, iridium silver metallic, 11511 miles, £22461, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

C200, SE, 2008, carneol red metallic, 6600 miles, £20890, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

C200, Sport, 2008, iridium silver metallic, 7774 miles, £26998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

C200, Elegance, 2008, tansanite blue metallic, 7241 miles, £20490, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

C200, Sport, 2008, obsidian black metallic, 8402 miles, £23100, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

C220 CDI, Sport, 2008, iridium silver metallic, 2816 miles, £24580, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

C220 CDI, Sports Sport Edition Auto Sport Edition, 2006, diamond black metallic, 24500 miles, £14790, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

C220 CDI, Avantgarde SE, 2007, cubanite silver metallic, 32561 miles, £16748, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

C220 CDI, Elegance, 2008, carneol red metallic, 10370 miles, £22180, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

C220 CDI, SE, 2008, tenorite grey metallic, 8465 miles, £22100, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

C220 CDI, SE, 2007, tenorite grey metallic, 10100 miles, £19896, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

C220 CDI, SPORTS Sport Edition, 2007, iridium silver metallic, 16586 miles, £16994, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

C220 CDI, Sport, 2008, tansanite blue metallic, 13359 miles, £22649, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

C220 CDI, Sport, 2008, obsidian black metallic, 13000 miles, £24997, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

CLK200 KOMPRESSOR, 2008, obsidian black metallic, 11146 miles, £28994, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

CLK200 KOMPRESSOR, 2008, tellurite silver metallic, 2000 miles, £31570, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

CLK200 KOMPRESSOR, 2007, iolite blue metallic, 10321 miles, £24998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

CLK200 KOMPRESSOR, 2007, obsidian black metallic, 19738 miles, £19998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

CLK200 KOMPRESSOR, 2007, iridium silver metallic, 21608 miles, £23880, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

CLK220 CDI, 2009, obsidian black metallic, 3000 miles, £25498, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

CLK220 CDI, 2009, obsidian black metallic, 3000 miles, £26498, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

CLK220 CDI, 2009, iridium silver metallic, 5000 miles, £25844, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

CLK220 CDI, 2008, iridium silver metallic, 5887 miles, £20990, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

CLK220 CDI, 2008, iridum silver, 8500 miles, £23693, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

CLK220 CDI, 2008, obsidian black metallic, 2128 miles, £29942, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

CLK220 CDI, 2008, iridium silver metallic, 9986 miles, £25425, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

CLK220 CDI, 2009, palladium silver metallic, 6000 miles, £27494, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

CLK220 CDI, 2009, tellurite silver metallic, 500 miles, £31997, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

CLK220 CDI, 2009, iridium silver metallic, 500 miles, £32997, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

CLK220 CDI, 2007, tansanite blue metallic, 18373 miles, £17997, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

CLK280, SPORT, 2007, iridium silver metallic, 14450 miles, £20497, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

CLK280, 2008, cubanite silver metallic, 1937 miles, £35882, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

CLK320 CDI, 2008, iridium silver metallic, 10000 miles, £28872, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

CLK320 CDI, 2009, obsidian black metallic, 2000 miles, £28998, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

CLK320 CDI, 2009, iridium silver metallic, 3500 miles, £32497, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

CLK320 CDI, 2008, obsidian black metallic, 10100 miles, £26997, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

CLK350, Avantgarde Avantgarde, 2005, obsidian black metallic, 22707 miles, £21270, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

CLS320 CDI, 2007, iridium silver metallic, 31451 miles, £23961, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

CLS320 CDI, 2008, indium grey metallic, 4685 miles, £31980, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

CLS320 CDI, 2006, iridium silver metallic, 48046 miles, £19980, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

CLS320 CDI, 2005, tansanite blue metallic, 24624 miles, £22498, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

CLS320 CDI, 2008, iridium silver metallic, 17978 miles, £31998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

CLS320 CDI, 2007, green black metallic, 12378 miles, £29498, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

CLS320 CDI, 2006, iridium silver metallic, 23590 miles, £24498, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

CLS320 CDI, 2007, iridium silver metallic, 23931 miles, £24998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

CLS320 CDI, 2006, iridium silver metallic, 54395 miles, £22498, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

CLS320 CDI, 2009, iridium silver metallic, 500 miles, £41997, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

CLS320 CDI, 2005, cubanit silver, 38356 miles, £21997, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

CLS320 CDI, 2009, tansanite blue metallic, 2000 miles, £40836, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

E200 KOMPRESSOR, 2004, brilliant silver metallic, 30942 miles, £13998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

E200 KOMPRESSOR, 2008, cubanite silver metallic, 8653 miles, £20998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

E200 KOMPRESSOR, 2008, obsidian black metallic, 9696 miles, £20587, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, Avantgarde, 2007, iridium silver metallic, 8162 miles, £21390, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, Avantgarde, 2007, iridium silver metallic, 16061 miles, £18298, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, *REDUCED*, 2009, iridium silver metallic, 3000 miles, £25998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, Avantgarde, 2007, iridium silver metallic, 7403 miles, £22780, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, Avantgarde Auto Avantgarde, 2006, iridium silver metallic, 35764 miles, £17490, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, Avantgarde, 2008, iridium silver metallic, 8377 miles, £22399, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, Avantgarde, 2008, tenorite grey metallic, 22201 miles, £22781, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, Classic, 2007, palladium silver metallic, 10024 miles, £20470, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, Avantgarde Auto EU4 Avantgarde, 2005, flint grey metallic, 40577 miles, £14690, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, *REDUCED*, 2009, obsidian black metallic, 3000 miles, £25998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, Avantgarde, 2008, iridium silver metallic, 10203 miles, £21998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, Avantgarde Auto Avantgarde, 2006, iridium silver metallic, 26570 miles, £20995, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, Avantgarde, 2008, iridium silver metallic, 7419 miles, £22484, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, Avantgarde, 2007, indium grey metallic, 17721 miles, £19999, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, Avantgarde, 2007, iridium silver metallic, 24100 miles, £19845, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, Avantgarde, 2007, iridium silver metallic, 19258 miles, £20270, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, Avantgarde, 2007, iridium silver metallic, 25944 miles, £17997, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

E280 CDI, Sport, 2008, flint grey metallic, 5000 miles, £24970, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

E280 CDI, Avantgarde, 2005, iridium silver, 36425 miles, £16998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

E280 CDI, 2009, tenorite grey metallic, 2000 miles, £32180, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

E280 CDI, 2009, iridium silver metallic, 3000 miles, £27998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

E280 CDI, Sport Auto Sport, 2006, tansanite blue metallic, 11300 miles, £19490, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

E280 CDI, Avantgarde, 2008, iridium silver metallic, 6000 miles, £27870, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

E280 CDI, Avantgarde Auto Avantgarde, 2006, columbite black metallic, 35072 miles, £18765, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

E320 CDI, Sport, 2007, iridium silver metallic, 16800 miles, £23765, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

E320 CDI, 2009, flint grey metallic, 5000 miles, £30960, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

E320 CDI, 2009, obsidian black metallic, 4000 miles, £31495, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

E320 CDI, 2008, columbite black metallic, 8904 miles, £29994, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

E320 CDI, Sport, 2007, cubanite silver metallic, 42584 miles, £20495, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

E320 CDI, Avantgarde Sal Auto Avantgarde, 2005, obsidian black metallic, 44040 miles, £14994, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

ML280 CDI, 2007, iridium silver metallic, 36022 miles, £22994, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

ML280 CDI, Sport, 2009, obsidian black metallic, 2000 miles, £37824, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

ML280 CDI, Sport, 2007, obsidian black metallic, 21372 miles, £23590, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

ML320 CDI, Sport, 2008, obsidian black metallic, 14188 miles, £29980, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

ML320 CDI, Sport, 2007, iridium silver, 7987 miles, £29998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

R320 CDI, LWB Sport, 2007, obsidian black metallic, 20418 miles, £24998, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

R320 CDI, LWB, 2009, iridium silver metallic, 3500 miles, £36997, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

S320 CDI, 2006, carneol red metallic, 28609 miles, £28997, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

S320 CDI, LWB, 2008, tansanite blue metallic, 14487 miles, £38870, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

S320 CDI, LWB, 2009, obsidian black metallic, 2000 miles, £49980, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

S320 CDI, L, 2006, tansanite blue metallic, 54200 miles, £31785, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

SLK200 KOMPRESSOR, 2009, obsidian black metallic, 3000 miles, £30390, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

SLK200 KOMPRESSOR, 2006, iridium silver metallic, 20443 miles, £20390, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

SLK200 KOMPRESSOR, 2007, iridium silver metallic, 9849 miles, £22870, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

SLK280, ROADSTER, 2009, obsidian black metallic, 3000 miles, £34495, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

SLK350, Roadster Auto, 2005, black, 26824 miles, £19994, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

MITSUBISHI

COLT, 1.5 CZC3 2dr **Delivery Miles**, gf09kzp, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd. insurance group:7, black, 50 miles, £10799, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 CZC3 2dr *Delivery Miles Only*, gf09kzn, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd. insurance group:7, blue, 50 miles, £10999, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.3 CZ2 3dr, gk09nwm, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, white, 3500 miles, £8495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.1 Blue 3dr, gj56xmo, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:3, blue, 22000 miles, £4745, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

I-CAR, 5dr Auto, gn08gzw, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti theft system, central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coding body, colour coding interior, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, folding rear seats, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio, remote locking, tinted glass. insurance group:4, saving, silver, 500 miles, £7795, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

L200, Double Cab 2.5 Td Trojan, ej56ych, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, leather seats, locking wheel nuts, power assisted steering, remote locking. silver, 27000 miles, £8395, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.8 GS3 4dr, abs, alloys, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, traction control. insurance group: 8, 3yrs / 37500 mile free servicing with this car, saving, silver, 9000 miles, £12995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.8 GS3 4dr CVT, abs, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, traction control. insurance group:8, saving, blue, 6800 miles, £12795, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

OUTLANDER, II 2.0 DI-DC Warrior 5dr "Leather", wv08tya, ellectric mirrors, leather gearknob, tinted windows, airbag double + side, cd player, fog lights, electricdoor mirrors, metallic paint, leather steering wheel, 18 light alloy wheels, adjustable seat height, air-conditioning, boardcomputer, silver, 3000 miles, £18495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

OUTLANDER, II 2.0 DI-DC Warrior 5dr, lx57xsl, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti theft system, central locking, climate control, computer, cruise control, dvd, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, multi function steering wheel, power assisted steering. insurance group:11, silver, 17300 miles, £15895, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

OUTLANDER, II 2.0 DI-DC Elegance 5dr, lv58bhl, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti theft system, central locking, climate control, computer, cruise control, electric mirrors, electric windows, extra seats, electric sunroof, foglights, front armrest, electrically adjustable seats, head restraints, heated seats, leather seats, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, navigation system, park distance control, remote locking, sunroof. insurance group:12, blue, 6500 miles, £20995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

107, 1.0 Sport XS 3dr, gj07tuv, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, driver airbag, electric windows, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:1, stripes. was, black, 9800 miles, £6390, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

207, 1.4 Urban 3dr, gk57vxn, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, computer, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric windows, immobiliser, head restraints, passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering, rear headrests, remote locking, side airbags. insurance group:3, blue, 4587 miles, £6395, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

207, 1.6 HDi 90 Sport 3dr, abs, air con, alloys, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, sports seats. insurance group:5, blue, 18000 miles, £7795, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

RENAULT

CLIO, 1.2 16V Campus Sport i-music 2007 3dr, al56law, abs, alloys, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats. insurance group:3, blue, 16000 miles, £5495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LAGUNA, 2.0 16V Initiale 5dr, alloys, central locking, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors/windows, foglights, electrically adjustable seats, headlight washers, heated seats, leather seats, immobiliser, navigation system, park distance control, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, traction control. insurance group: 12, silver, 7000 miles, £12495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

SMART

FORTWO CABRIO PASSION, 2009, silver metallic, 2000 miles, £10499, Maidstone, 0845 481 6488 (TRADE)

FORTWO COUPÉ GRANDSTYLE, 2006, racing green, 17350 miles, £6499, Maidstone, 0845 481 6488 (TRADE)

FORTWO COUPÉ PASSION, 2008, crystal white, 5500 miles, £8199, Maidstone, 0845 481 6488 (TRADE)

FORTWO COUPÉ PULSE, 2008, light yellow, 2023 miles, £7499, Maidstone, 0845 481 6488 (TRADE)

SUZUKI

SWIFT, 1.3 GL 3dr, abs, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, insurance group: 4, red, 29500 miles, £6495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

SWIFT, 1.5 GLX 5dr, abs, air con, alloys, driver airbag, electric mirrors/windows, foglights, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd. insurance group: 6, grey, 17000 miles, £6995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL

CORSA, 1.4i 16V SXi 5dr Auto [AC], air con, alloys, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric mirrors/windows, foglights,radio/cd, power steering, remote locking, airbags, sports seats. insurance group: 4, was, black, 15000 miles, £8395, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

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By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

It's time to think small

GOVERNMENT must get its act together and offer training that cuts the mustard instead of going over people's heads, according to one of Kent's leading business organisations.

The Federation of Small Businesses (FSB), which has 7,000 members in the county, is now calling for a dedicated Small Business Sector Skills Council to focus on training needs of micro-firms.

An FSB survey found that the micros – firms with fewer than five employees – are excluded from Government-run training schemes, and are struggling to take advantage of the Train to Gain scheme.

Train to Gain aims to help businesses develop the skills of their staff, but many small firms are not aware subsidised training is on offer and the majority of sole traders wrongly believe they do not qualify.

Despite a £350 million pot being announced this year for the hardest-to-reach small businesses – which tend to be at the micro end – 88 per cent of respondents to the survey said they had not taken up an offer of training through Train to Gain. The majority – 78 per cent – said the scheme needed to be more flexible, and identified the need for training on issues specific to the smallest firms, including leadership and management for businesses with fewer than five employees, and specialised technical and business skills areas micro businesses operate in.

There was also interest in areas such as IT, health and safety, responding to tenders and sales and marketing – crucial business management skills that the smallest firms may not have expertise in.

Only 18 per cent of respondents were even aware that training was available in smaller bite-size chunks, which are so important for small businesses – the majority of which have less than four employees and 2.72 million of which are self employed.

Roger House, FSB chairman for Kent and Medway, said: "The Government must start to recognise the needs of the country's smallest businesses, especially during this crucial time when firms need to be investing in skills and training so they can emerge stronger as they pull the economy out of recession.

"We welcome extra funding for, and the focus on, small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as the increased flexibility.

"But much of the Government's training offer goes over the heads of the hardest to reach small firms because the training available is inappropriate for the majority of the country's smallest businesses, and because it still isn't flexible enough.

"A small business with only two employees needs to be able to train its staff in a way that doesn't force them to be out of the office for days on end – especially during a recession.

"What we really need is dedicated training for the smallest firms and I am working on pilot projects to reduce the criteria to two employees from five."

Tony Pringle, FSB chairman for east Kent, said: "It is still very hard for small micro companies to fit the bill for funding and it is just as hard for larger companies, but they have people who can sit and fill in forms and study the gaps in the system.

"The pot of money needs to be more evenly distributed and made more accessible to micro companies, but they must also help themselves by doing research and give some time to identify their training needs and to do some basic form filling."

Meantime, Kent businesses have been urged to step forward for a programme of advice and support – discussion and networking – which they've been slow in applying for.

Called PLATO:Sustain, it's being funded by Seeda and the European Regional Development Fund and is worth a notional £3,500 to each firm, but there are criteria to fulfil.

People taking part have to be owner/managers, have more than 10 employees, have a turnover of at least £1 million a year and have been operating for at least three years.

A freight worse than debt

FREIGHT and logistics firms could well go through a period of consolidation and rationalisation – mergers, take-overs and shake-outs – over the coming months as they struggle to survive and thrive.

That's the prediction from accountants and business advisor Baker Tilly, which has offices in Bromley and Tunbridge Wells.

Businesses are fighting decreasing revenues and customers increasingly attempting to spin out payment terms, leading to a strain on working capital.

But, says the firm, support from banks has dwindled and struggling businesses feel let down at a time they need support most. This may change following the Government's recently announced funding guarantee initiatives, but it will take time to filter through to businesses needing help now. Firms that weather the storm may well have opportunities. Some freight and logistics companies may well be struggling and need to merge or acquire. Those that fail may well provide an opportunity for others that have taken steps to preserve their business. Said Baker Tilly: "Inevitably there will be consolidation and rationalisation within the sector and to survive and prosper the firms will need a strong business strategy to ride out the storm."

Corporate finance director Paul Billett said: "With banks being increasingly cautious in their lending decisions and the prospect of decreased availability of credit for many businesses, it is imperative that companies facing the prospect of having to negotiate or renegotiate even a small amount of funding, receive sound and practical advice.

"For those freight and logistics companies contemplating making an acquisition, the current climate provides excellent opportunities to acquire and merge to achieve a good strategic fit and ensure long-term prosperity."

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Pick of the bunch helps beat pests

A CRACK University of Greenwich team has been picked for a prestigious award after helping aubergine farmers in South Asia control pests without having to resort to harmful and expensive pesticides.

The work of the university's Natural Resources Institute (NRI) is vital to million farmers who make their living growing the popular vegetable. And the research could be useful in the UK. Aubergines make up 40 per cent of vegetables farmed in Bangladesh but using damaging pesticides takes up 40 per cent of production costs. Farmers can now produce the highly nutritious crop all year round without having to resort to pesticides.

This will help farmers' families who will benefit from increased income and a healthier diet.

Excelled

The team's International Award of Recognition is given to those groups that have excelled in pest management.

Dr Alan Cork, group leader at the NRI, said: "Over 25,000 hectares of land in Bangladesh have now adopted this method of pest control.

"However, there is still more work to be done. It is our goal to see the whole region following the example that has been set so that all farmers can reap the many rewards."

Now Dr Cork and his team at the university are looking towards their next project.

"We have begun researching into how pesticide use can be reduced for tomato farming. This has already made a strong impact in India, but more funds are needed to continue the important studies.

"I hope achieving international recognition will encourage other teams to put themselves forward for other awards."

DVD starring role

A DARTFORD firm is featured in a new promotional DVD in support of Get Britain Building, a campaign aimed at reversing the decline in the construction industry.

The campaign is demanding the Government does all it can to prevent 300,000 predicted job losses in the construction sector and to create a framework in which small construction businesses can survive in the recession.

It can be viewed on YouTube and features organisations from builders and manufacturers, to materials suppliers such as Howarth Timber and Building Supplies of Hythe Street Lower.

It is part of the Howarth Timber Group, one of the UK's largest privately owned timber companies.

Consultancy reports revenue boost as new homes sales rise

Developing confidence that worst is now over

PROUD: Nigel Cronin of SLR in Maidstone

By TONY PATEY
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

GOOD news from the property developing and construction fronts – and there are beginning to be some small signs that the worst of the recession might be over.

A leading environmental consultancy, SLR, which has an office in Maidstone, this week reported a 73 per cent increase in revenue for the last year – the largest rise in the group's 15-year history.

Sales in the year up to last October rose to £54.6 million – up from £31.6m in the previous year.

And the company, whose local clients include many of the county's' regional waste companies together with a growing list of property developers, also saw a high level of repeat revenue, with 55 per cent of income coming from clients of more than five years' standing.

Maidstone office manager and technical director Nigel Cronin said: "This is a very strong performance and our team is proud that it has been able to contribute to the company's impressive growth.

"Despite the hardening economic climate, SLR expects to see continued organic growth this year and the company's strategy remains to supplement this through selective acquisitions to strengthen and increase our technical and geographic coverage."

The company's Maidstone office, which opened in late 2006, now employs nine environmental consultants including specialists in waste management, treatment technology, planning, land quality and geotechnical engineering.

Meantime, Kent housebuilder Ward Homes has reported a strong sales performance in the first three months of the year.

It has already sold 79 new homes in 2009. All but 10 homes have now been sold at Kings Hill, West Malling, and just seven remain in the current phase at Eden Village, Sittingbourne. Throughout the region, properties are selling at a rate of nearly two per week.

"We have seen a strong performance in terms of the number of homes sold and visitors to our sites in the last few months as more and more people realise that now could be the time to buy," said Tim Nabbs, sales director.

"We have a number of ways to help our customers move up the property ladder.

"We are offering some of our best-ever deals but they can only be available for a limited period and we are fast running out of stock. I'd advise anyone who's interested in a new home to come and talk to us soon."

Also, house prices in the South East are more affordable in May, 2009, than at any time since early 2003, according to new research from property website, propertyfinder.com. This is in line with the national average.

It says the national picture masks enormous regional and local variations.

The further south and east you go, the more likely you are to find property as affordable even as 2000 and 2001 in some areas, such as Sevenoaks.

Awards showcase firms' USPs

COMPANIES with great USPs – unique selling points – are being urged to showcase their talents and get a top national award worth £50,000 to the winner.

The British Chambers of Commerce have launched their prestigious awards programme. John Dunsmure, managing director, said: "We all know how difficult it's been out there for business recently.

"That makes it even more important for companies to make the most of every opportunity they can to demonstrate their strengths and skills."

Entry is free for chamber members and the deadline is June 26. This year's categories are: Business of the Year, Entrepreneur of the Year, Achievement in International Business, Excellence in Customer Service, Excellence in People Development, the Most Promising New Business, the Green Award and the Award for Innovation Through Technology.

Enter via www.chamberawards.co.uk/2009; telephone 02476 472593; or you can email awards@chamberawards.co.ukn.

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Mention small businesses and people usually think of firms on business parks, or little factories tucked away in back streets. But pubs and shops are just as much businesses as the next enterprise – and professionals such as pharmacists and dental experts are no exception.

Robert Hutchison, pictured right, is an orthodontist who runs the Orthodontic Practice in Broad Street, Canterbury.

Like bosses in more mainline businesses he, too, has to get over his USPs – unique selling points – with careful marketing. For instance, he says many people are unaware that adults, as well as children, can get their teeth straightened. Another misconception is that you have to be referred by your dentist when you can actually go directly to an orthodontist.

The only exception is for children seeking NHS treatment, who do require a dentist's referral. People also often assume that if you want to have your teeth straightened you have to wear 'tramline braces'. But you can get less visible braces or have brackets fitted to the inside of your teeth to move the teeth around. Mr Hutchison spoke to KOS Media:

Q *Why did you want to run your own practice?*

A I had been working in the practice as an associate for two years and was really enjoying the experience.

The practice was small and very friendly. We got to know our patients very well. It was a joy to work in the practice. When the owner retired, I took up the opportunity to buy the business in 1996.

Being able to take over a practice where I felt at home was ideal as I had always wanted to run my own business.

Owning my own practice is preferable to working for another practice or a hospital because you have the freedom to do things in the way you think best.

We can offer patients the most advanced treatments from across the world coupled with a very personal and caring service.

Q *What is your background in the field?*

A After a degree in dentistry from the University of Glasgow and a short time in general dentistry, I worked in teaching hospitals, eventually specialising in orthodontics.

While studying for an MSc degree I worked as a registrar in orthodontics, alternating between Guy's Hospital in London and Kent and Canterbury Hospital.

Registration as a specialist with the General Dental Council followed gaining membership in orthodontics of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1994.

Q *How has trading been and what are your major successes?*

A The majority of our patients come because we have been recommended to them either by another patient or their dentist. This is very encouraging for us.

We recently engaged an independent company who specialise in undertaking in-depth face-to-face customer feedback surveys to interview our patients and referring dentists.

Our approval rating was 98 per cent – the highest this company had seen across all different types of businesses.

We were delighted with this feedback. Our turnover has grown each year.

Q *How do you think dental work as a business has fared in the economic downturn?*

A In the last few years there has been a considerable increase in adults wishing to have their teeth straightened.

People are more aware of what is possible. So far in this recession we haven't noticed any reduction in the number of people enquiring about or taking up treatment. The reason is health and well being are so important. Also when it comes to families, parents put their children's dental health above their own needs.

Q *How do you relax?*

A I love sharing food in the company of good friends. My other interests include photography and relearning French with the Open University.

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Thanks a million – firms get helping hand from taxman

KENT firms have been getting a helping hand from the tax people – a total of 3,090 have been given the chance to spread a total of £53 million in tax payments over periods they can afford.

The number is the second highest in the South East after Hampshire, and the amount is the third highest after Hampshire and Surrey.

In its first six months, HM Revenue and Customs' (HMRC) business payment support service has agreed 20,570 time-to-pay arrangements with businesses in the South East, involving £374 million.

The service provides a fast-track service that offers support to businesses needing more time to pay their tax bills, and businesses can quickly agree terms they can afford with HMRC over the phone.

The Budget announced the service would be enhanced to allow viable businesses to have expected in-year trading losses considered when asking for time to pay their tax bill.

Core business role in the Big Apple

OIL and energy have been making headlines for months and now a big Canterbury-based energy business consultancy has taken its trade right into the lions' den – Wall Street in New York City.

Douglas Westwood, which has its head office and research centre in the cathedral city, reckons it's just the time to be in the Big Apple.

"Although the global economic climate is clearly challenging," said its Aberdeen-based chief executive officer Andrew Reid, "we think this is a great time to invest.

"China will continue to develop and oil will not become cheaper or easier to find. The amount of capital required to meet future energy demand is staggering, and much of it will be intermediated through New York.

"We think this provides an opportunity for us to provide high-quality market analysis, strategic consulting and commercial due diligence services to the US investment community, including our many existing clients with operations in the city."

The company's research, analysis and strategy services are used by clients in 48 countries with more than 540 assignments completed since its formation in 1990.

In the past year alone, it has completed market due diligence on merger and acquisition, and financing deals totaling $10 billion.

Its clients comprise the world's leading financial and energy companies, including 3i, Arcapita, BP, Baker Hughes, Bechtel, ExxonMobil, JP Morgan, Morgan Stanley, RBS, Simmons & Co International and Shell.

Computing at a remove as IT cloud is gathering

HEY, you! Get off of my cloud! Or rather, as IT businesses are saying these days, get on it – as 'cloud computing' becomes the hottest new business concept.

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

After minor teething problems it's quickly becoming the latest IT phenomenon to affect the business world, offering huge cost savings, especially for new firms and people working remotely.

Cloud computing refers to a variety of ways organisations can use services offered by providers on the internet. This means they can, for example, store, back-up or archive data, manage emails or host applications, like a website, without having to pay for expensive infrastructure and hardware.

How does cloud computing work at ground-level? Liam Patey, 27, who has just launched North Kent Internet Services, which has an office in Gravesend, said: "It would appear to be a useful solution to businesses like mine.

"I have only just started trading and cannot afford a stand-alone server yet.

"Cloud not only provides that hardware, but on a non-contractual, pay-as-you-go basis. The remote access feature is perfect for what I do."

Cloud computing guru Jon Morgan, whose Welsh-based company Object Matrix has many Kent customers, said: "Businesses using cloud computing services can benefit from total flexibility.

"The pay-as-you-go aspect means users that can determine how much of a service to use, meaning companies avoid paying for space that is not being used. Cloud platforms are extremely adaptable and can provide rapid expansion if demand suddenly increases.

"When it comes to using the service, such as accessing emails or viewing stored information, for instance, companies are not restricted to one computer or server network.

"The main idea behind cloud computing is that information is accessible from any computer. As a result, it's ideal for remote working and increasing productivity while on the move or out of the office."

Cloud service providers use an automated registration procedure and web-based API (application programming interface) pages. This means users can determine exactly what kind of service they need, and can adjust at any time. It also means that it is as easy to cancel a service.

Mr Morgan said: "Savings made by using cloud computing correctly can be enormous. For example, we decided to host an online customer relationship management tool so our sales force and management could keep up to date with sales opportunities.

"Our first option was to set up a tool in the office, using a dedicated computer, backing-up that data, trying to make sure the application and the security were set up correctly.

"The second choice was to use an online tool, that was essentially pay-and-go, for as little as £4 a month. This service allowed us to set up as many users as we required and a server that we could use to host other services such as a bulletin board and a website."

For the technically minded, cloud computing is an extension of previous internet trends, such as Infrastructure as a Service, or Software as a Service, combined with aspects of Web 2.0.

The three primary types of cloud computing business tools are: cloud-based storage, cloud-based application hosting and cloud-based application development engines.

Down sides? The main danger is how long service providers remain in business. Although the concept is here to stay, some companies and products will disappear. Even large companies can shut down online products, so businesses need to be careful about what backup plans are in place in case the product goes offline or away permanently.

There are also the same dangers that accompany other software programmes, such as glitches, bugs and viruses. So if businesses are entrusting sensitive data, they must be sure about the service.

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Seeds of revival starting to take root in county

By **PAT CRAWFORD**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THERE is some good news – at least in some commercial sectors – and I think it's fair to say that better times are definitely on the way.

In quite a few areas falls in house prices are moderating, developers are reported to be buying land again – and the almost total collapse in sales of new properties is showing a welcome reversal.

True, the upward trend is currently regionalised, but overall predictions of an improvement are reasonably favourable.

The rural business sector is another area doing rather well. For some reason, the sector is often dismissed as irrelevant and unimportant, despite its not insubstantial benefits to the GDP – especially in Kent

All the signs are that the sector is in for a big revival. Add the desire for regionally-produced food, to fears about food security and the need to reduce food miles – and a mini-boom may well be on the way.

We are fortunate, despite increasing pressure on land for housing and roads, to have some stunning countryside.

This is in fact a managed environment and the appearance of a great deal of it relates to farming – more correctly expressed as agriculture and commercial horticulture.

Unemployment is increasing, but some parts of the rural sector are bucking the trend.

Farming, in particular, needs to recruit more new entrants to fulfil predicted future needs.

Fortunately, according to Hadlow College's Mark Lumsdon-Taylor, the perception that farming had nothing to offer is a thing of the past.

He said: "We are recording increased applications, both at further and higher education levels, from people of wide-ranging ages wanting to make a career in the industry.

"Specialist programmes, such as the degree in sustainable land management, are appealing to young people straight from school as well as those opting for a change mid-career."

"The rural sector underpins our future and makes an unmeasurably important contribution to our ability to overcome the threats we face."

All in all, things are looking much more positive.

• ***Pat Crawford writes on issues related to farming education.***

Everything's coming up roses

BRITS turning thrifty in the face of the recession have put a rosy glow on takings of garden centres and wholesalers who have been raking in the cash.

There's been demand in spades at garden centres such as Wyevale, and the gardening sections of home improvement giants B&Q and Homebase have been blossoming – compared with wilting furniture and housewares sides. All three groups have branches across Kent, and it is fertile ground for sales as more people spend time in the garden rather than going out on the town, or grow their own vegetables to help cut shopping bills.

Recent fine weather has also been good for business growth. Wyevale chief executive Nicholas Marshall said sales had grown by a half compared with last year.

"If you buy a tomato plant for 99p you could end up getting £20 of toms and the return on an apple-tree is mind-blowing," he said. "I'm the biggest greengrocer in the country."

Vegetable seed sales at Homebase and B&Q have doubled. And greenhouse sales have nearly trebled, according to B&Q.

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Could the current bear market really be near the end?

By **LIZ RULE**
Pharon Independent Financial Advisers Ltd

GOVERNMENT borrowing forecasts show projected outstanding debt of £1.4 trillion in 2014 and some painful reforms will be needed to begin to reduce what our country owes.

Each day we continue to hear about people losing their jobs, and we are still watching what we spend and looking to make savings, where possible.

House price data from the Nationwide, despite a positive blip in March, fell again in April. However, despite some of these fairly hefty negative indicators, there have been glimpses of positive information coming through in the UK economy, as the rate of decline in some corporate sectors slowed.

Stock market rise

These small and early measures of confidence have influenced stock markets. The FTSE All Share Index was up over 20 per cent from its lows as glimpses of confidence in certain areas fuelled a rally.

The UK is not alone in experiencing these confidence rallies. US stock markets are up over 30 per cent since their early-year lows, and some American commentators are expressing a view that they have passed the lowest point of the slump.

Europe, too, has experienced double digit returns. These increases in sentiment are all set against a backdrop of largely poor macroeconomic data. For instance, US GDP fell by 6.1 per cent in the first quarter, being the worst six-month contraction for 61 years.

So there are commentators who are saying, beware, this is simply a small rally and may not last. But there are others calling the end of the bear markets and predicting a sustained bull run.

It remains to be seen how the year will play out and the summer is a notoriously strange time for the markets.

Anyone thinking of investing and perhaps using this year's ISA allowance, if you are trying to time the market, this year will be a tough call, and the best option may be to phase your investment over the year in chunks – so plan now.

Movers & Shakers

NANCY Caldwell, a partner at Maidstone-based DSH chartered accountants and business advisors, has retired after almost 28 years with the firm. Nancy, who lives in Maidstone, joined what was then more commonly known as Day, Smith & Hunter, as a graduate in July, 1981. After flying through her accountancy exams, she qualified three years later, was made a partner in 1997 and was part of the audit and business services team for DSH.

She was one of 13 partners at DSH and said she entered the profession at a time when it was still rare for women to become chartered accountants.

"I graduated in zoology from Durham, which I know is an unlikely choice for an accountant," she said, "but I have been able to use my family's farming background over the years as many of my clients have been in farming. I entered the profession at a time when women were in a minority, but that has changed over the years. I will miss the people I work with the most – and filling in timesheets the least."

Retirement plans include spending more time with her family, playing golf and travelling. Future trips include a visit to Petra in the deserts of Jordan, an animal safari and a Rhine cruise.

COMPANIES in the Medway towns and Sittingbourne can now benefit from the expertise of a newly appointed Business Link advisor who has experience working in several sectors, including publishing, advertising and education.

Marianne Griffiths, pictured left, will work with small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), providing access to the information, advice and support needed to maintain and assist growth at any stage of their development. She has a first class honours degree in business and honed her skills in a variety of roles in operations, production and marketing as well as sitting on the board of a charitable childcare provider.

ST JAMES'S Place Wealth Management has appointed Nick Froggatt as head of business to manage its activities throughout Kent, Surrey and Sussex.

Mr Froggatt, aged 43, has become head of the company's Westerham office, based in London Road. Bob Harvey, who was in the role for the last 13 years, becomes business acquisition manager, responsible for recruiting new partners.

Mr Froggatt has 20 years' experience in the financial services industry and moves to Westerham from the St James's Place office in Leeds where he worked for the last three years. Bob, aged 60, has worked in financial services for over 30 years.

Both are keen runners and regularly raise money for the St James's Place Foundation, a charity that gives funds to UK organisations whose work is based on two main themes – Cherishing the Children, and the Hospice Movement.

TWO high-flyers at regional law firm Furley Page – recommended by Chambers UK and Legal 500 – have been promoted to partners.

This follows the firm's restructure of its private client, trusts and estates team into six sectors aimed at providing more wide-ranging specialist advice to clients.

New partners are 42-year-old Nicola Rostron, who is head of the elderly and vulnerable client team, sharing her time between the Canterbury and Chatham offices; and Sarah Bogard, 32, who leads the firm's French property services and is based at Canterbury.

Nicola, of Sittingbourne, is a member of Solicitors for the Elderly, a national organisation of lawyers committed to providing independent legal advice for older people, their families and carers; and of the probate section of The Law Society. She is also a student member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners.

Some of Nicola's clients – such as the blind or partially-sighted and the deaf and hard of hearing – have difficulty in communicating and she has learned British Sign Language so she can speak directly to them.

Sarah, of Chestfield, near Whitstable, is a fluent French speaker, and advises clients on all aspects of buying and selling properties in France as well as dealing with French wills and succession planning, and advising on the administration of French estates.

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MALE AGED 30		FEMALE AGED 30	
SCOT PROVIDENT	£14.39	SCOT PROVIDENT	£11.40
LV=	£16.17	LEGAL & GENERAL	£12.60
LEGAL & GENERAL	£16.35	AEGON SCOT EQ	£13.01
AEGON SCOT EQ	£16.77	LV=	£13.31
BRIGHT GREY	£18.19	BRIGHT GREY	£13.51
MALE AGED 40		**FEMALE AGED 40**	
AEGON SCOT EQ	£17.35	SCOT PROVIDENT	£13.68
SCOT PROVIDENT	£17.62	LEGAL & GENERAL	£14.40
LV=	£17.99	BUPA	£14.83
BUPA	£18.72	LV=	£14.88
LEGAL & GENERAL	£19.20	AEGON SCOT EQ	£15.16

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MORTGAGE RATES

RT: Rate type **R%:** Rate percentage **L:** Loan **U:** Until **OD:** Other details

FIXED

PRINCIPALITY
RT: FIXED **R%:** 4.79% **L:** 75% **U:** 30/06/2012
OD: £1,339

WOOLWICH
RT: FIXED **R%:** 4.79% **L:** 70% **U:** 31/07/2014
OD: £1,034

MARSDEN
RT: FIXED **R%:** 3.59% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/05/2011
OD: £1,123

ABBEY
RT: FIXED **R%:** 3.65% **L:** 70% **U:** 02/09/2011
OD: £1,255

OTHER

ABBEY
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 3.29% **L:** 70% **U:** 3 YEARS
OD: £1,255

WOOLWICH
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 3.24% **L:** 70% **U:** 31/07/2012
OD: £1,034

MARSDEN
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.89% **L:** 70% **U:** 31/05/2011
OD: £1,123

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.99% **L:** 75% **U:** 2 YEARS
OD: £2,310

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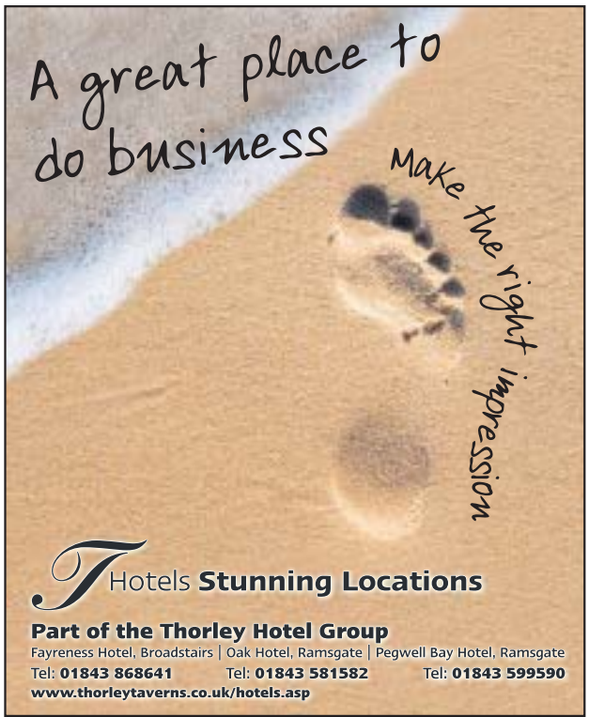

Luxury par for the course

IT MAY be called the London Golf Club but it's set in some of Kent's loveliest countryside – and claims to be just 12 miles from Canary Wharf.

Located at Ash, near Brands Hatch, since 1994, it has become one of the top golfing venues in the UK and Europe, as well as home to corporate hospitality which goes with a swing.

Kate Brewer, head of marketing, said recent events have included car companies and banks holding client hospitality days there, and companies also take clients to tournaments, such as the European Open.

Its two championship courses were designed by the legendary Jack Nicklaus and his Golden Bear specialists.

The Heritage Course – a Jack Nicklaus signature design – is a par-72 parkland which both the European Open and the London Seniors Masters have been played on and presents real challenges.

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

Sister course, The International, is 7,005 yards off the championship tees. An inland links, this course has been home to the London Seniors' Masters, a European Seniors' Tour event.

The par 72 is considered to be a true test for players of all standards. Take on any one of the five precarious pin positions on the blistering par threes, or opt for the brave route at the signature 13th hole and you have your work cut out.

Off course, the club offers practice facilities with a 330-yard turf driving range, as well as two putting greens and short game area.

The award-winning clubhouse caters for all requirements and there are state-of-the-art meeting facilities with plasma screens and wireless broadband.

Plus there's an on-site helipad.

TOP HOLE: London Golf Club is in Kent, yet just a few miles from the centre of the capital

The retreat you can't beat

RETREATS have become popular in these recessionary times as a way of easing the stresses and strains of modern life.

This has spelt good business for official church retreat houses and monasteries and convents offering quiet space.

Aylesford, for example, is the home of a community of Carmelite friars. Actually called The Friars, it is three miles north-west of Maidstone on the River Medway and offers business conference and hospitality facilities.

For centuries is has been a popular centre of pilgrimage – along with Walsingham in Norfolk – welcoming pilgrims of all faiths, and there is no entry charge to visit, although a donation is invited for the main car park.

The Friars was founded in 1242 when the first Carmelites arrived from the Holy Land. After Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries in 1538 it became a private residence, but in 1949 the Carmelites regained possession of their old home.

Now The Friars is a blend of medieval and modern and its chapels contain outstanding modern works of religious art, such as ceramics by Adam Kossowski.

The guest house can accommodate up to 80 in single or twin rooms, and has a few family rooms. Visitors go for business and educational conferences as well as retreats

Its main conference centre seats 120 and is let as a suite with two syndicate rooms and a lounge/bar. Six additional meeting rooms seats between 10 and 80.

Who dares wins with Treejumpers link-up

A UNIQUE business hospitality link-up is in action in west Kent which brings together a national racing track name with the Special Air Service.

Brands Hatch Thistle Hotel naturally has a lot of spin-off from corporate hospitality at the nearby track, but it also offers accommodation and other facilities to business people going to the Treejumpers adventure site at Longfield.

And in charge of corporate hospitality at Treejumpers is well-known Colonel Tim Collins, the former SAS officer who shot to fame with his address to troops on the eve of the invasion of Iraq, when, as commander of the 1,200 strong Royal Irish battlegroup, he urged his men to "liberate and not to conquer".

Treejumpers activities include aerial adventure, survival, archery, air rifles, caving, paintballing, teambuilding, first aid and motorised sports.

The Brands Hatch Thistle Hotel can entertain corporate guests or employees at its De Havilland suite which holds up to 300 people, and it has just opened its Racing Bar (pictured below, and inset) aimed at attracting well-off motorcyclists.

All day meetings can be held in one of its many training rooms followed by a team-building session at the racing circuit next door or at Treejumpers.

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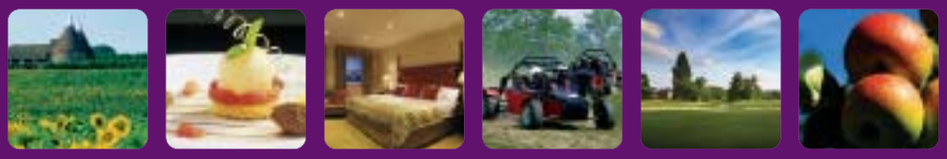

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Kent Conference Bureau

IT'S ACADEMIC: Sheffield Hallam University, left, and London Metropolitan University, below left, offer degree courses that can get careers in hospitality and tourism off to a flying start

Learning curve leads to the top

MANY people making careers in hospitality and tourism learn on the job – hands-on work with experienced mentors giving advice and support, ***writes Tony Patey***.

But anyone wanting a wider view of the industry can take a degree course. A few universities offer courses in hospitality business management, and students not only gain knowledge, they meet people from all over the world and get to hear about the best ways of doing the job from the experts. The hospitality industry is competitive, fast-growing and international, and currently in the UK alone it's worth £68 billion a year.

It covers areas including, deluxe hotels, restaurants, designer bars, food service management, specialist catering for sporting and other events, budget hotels, quick-service retail restaurants, pubs and bars, nightclubs and running your own business. KOS Media took a look at two courses on offer: one at London Metropolitan University and the other at Sheffield Hallam University.

London: A business-based course that providing key skills which can be applied across the industry. A major benefit involves the range of problem-solving exercises working with hospitality and tourism employers in London, including hotels, restaurants, pubs and clubs, public and private healthcare, and travel and tourism.

The international dimensions of the course help attract a cosmopolitan mix of students, and there are numerous examples of best practice within the London hospitality sector. London Met also houses leading consultancy and research centres, which help attract high-calibre visiting lecturers.

For Single Honours you take eight modules at each level. Joint Honours involves four modules from each level in International Hospitality Management, plus four from your other subject. You may also choose a major/minor combination at the end of level one.

Level one modules are Hospitality Today, Studying Service Sector Management, Quantitative Analysis for the Creative Industries, Economics for the Service Sector, International Beverage Studies, Introduction to Marketing and a language or optional modules.

Level two promotes a more critical, in-depth approach to the understanding of the international industry, and modules are International Food and Service Management, Information Technology in Hospitality, Leisure and Tourism, Finance for Leisure and Tourism, Hospitality Consultancy, the Consumer in Leisure, Tourism and Hospitality and Organisational Management and Design. Level three focuses on strategic and contemporary matters and modules are Culture, Hospitality and Tourism, Research and Dissertation, Global Strategic Issues in Hospitality and Tourism Management, International Corporate Finance and Technological Innovation in the Hospitality Industry.

The course includes a compulsory one-year paid work placement between levels two and three, but exemptions may be granted if you already have appropriate work experience. If you are on the Joint Honours course, you can also benefit from an optional short work placement that counts as credit towards your degree. Graduates have obtained jobs with organisations such as Forte UK and Hilton International.

Sheffield: The course gives students a chance to enter the Young Guns competition, an industry award that recognises students who have excelled during their placement. Sheffield students have been winners or finalists for the last eight years.

Its international award places greater emphasis on the global hospitality industry. To gain this award you must take a work placement abroad.

After your second year, you can take an optional one-year paid work placement. Placements are a valuable way of increasing employability and starting salary. The university helps students find a suitable placement and provides support while they are there.

Past students have worked at Walt Disney World Resort, Florida; University of Warwick hospitality; Marriott Hotel, County Wicklow, Ireland; All Bar One, Jupiter Island Club, Florida; and Grand View Lodge, Minnesota.

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Mission: Impossibly good

AS A MARKETING tool, corporate entertaining can be one of the most effective because clients can be clearly defined, and so precisely targeted, ***writes Tony Patey***.

However, as with all marketing, the imponderable areas are always – what are your rivals up to, and are they being more imaginative?

One way of targeting clients is to invite them to a totally unique event, and this kind of thinking is going high on agendas these days, and is very effective if it is even tailored to the clients' personal interests.

A leading UK hospitality company, the Business Hospitality Bureau, does just that and it has produced some case studies on events which have successfully taken place:

Case study 1: Licence to Thrill

Client: International satellite company

Brief: Create a unique event to impress up to 100 international clients in London for a trade exhibition

Proposal: Special agent party in the style of superspy James Bond 007

Features:

- Invitations in the form of a mission kit
- Mysterious entrance to event, chosen to create suspense
- Glamorous girls serving cocktails – shaken not stirred
- Team of actors employed to carry out specific mission roles
- Guests, now briefed as special agents, were whisked off to Chelsea Harbour in blacked-out coaches
- After mock fights, remote controlled landings and shoot-outs, the baddies made a rapid escape in a speedboat
- Agents jumped aboard a fleet of power-cruisers plus a police launch and set off in hot pursuit
- Messages were relayed to the cruisers: "Bomb on board", and much hilarity was had in finding and defusing them
- With meticulous timing the cruisers arrived just where a fleet of white stretch limousines was drawing up with Harley-Davidson outriders.
- The mission then transferred to land, taking guests to their final destination for a sumptuous dinner and fireworks finale with client's corporate logo illuminated

Client's comments – "Best party ever – it was amazing how everyone at the exhibition the next day was talking about it."

Case study 2: Ultimate driving experience

Client: Insurance company

Brief: Produce an event that will ensure up to 80 top clients will eagerly accept – these guests are well courted by our competitors

Proposal: High-adrenaline motor sports day

Features:

- Sourcing a central UK venue with good motorway access
- Providing hospitality in a high-tech space-age style pavilion
- Supplying guests with corporate branded kit in team colours
- Planning a programme of multi-disciplined driving challenges
- A hosted drive round a bowl circuit by a professional racing driver at 160 mph
- Taking control and flying a twin-seat helicopter
- Manoeuvring a JCB through an obstacle course
- Driving off-road round a specially designed circuit
- Racing go-karts against each other
- Experiencing the thrill of being at the pit-stop and participating in changing the tyres of a grand prix car against the clock
- Driving a Porsche round a two-mile circuit complete with hairpin bends

Client's comments: "This was the ultimate day for big boys' toys. Many guests viewed this as the best ever hospitality day."

Case study 3: Fly to Champagne houses

Client: PR company

Brief: Organise a mystery tour, where all the guests knew beforehand was to arrive with their passports.

Proposal: Tailor-made excursion to France for the day

Features:

- Private jet transfer to Reims in the Champagne region of France – with a Champagne breakfast served on board
- Luxury coach on the tarmac waiting to whisk guests directly from the plane – no lengthy airport processing
- Private tours of two exclusive Champagne houses not normally open to the public, with English speaking guides
- Sampling vintage brands
- Sumptuous lunch in a Michelin-starred restaurant with views overlooking the Epernay Valley
- Six commemorative bottles of Champagne for each guest, specially packaged and branded with corporate logo
- An event which afforded quality and quantity time for hosts to cement business relationships

Client's comments: "Pre-event suspense worked superbly and the day out was just one fabulous experience after another."

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Whether it's for leisure, wedding, conference or a private event, why not make The Bell Hotel your own secret hideaway.

the bell hotel
sandwich

By TONY PATEY
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

Horses for courses

NO WONDER business people enjoy a day at the races – seeing a fighting fit thoroughbred beat all-comers to be first past the post and the sheer joy of winning – what's not to like?

At Folkestone racecourse there are hospitality suites overlooking the track in the modern Glover Stand.

While picking winners, guests can enjoy a three-course meal or hot and cold buffet, and the boxes overlook the paddock from the rear balcony, with a view of the entire course and winning post from the front balcony.

Numbers over 150 can be catered for using a marquee. However, the fully inclusive packages include race day badges, race cards, food, tea and coffee, CCTV, waitress service, car parking and private room hire.

RIDING HIGH: Folkestone racecourse offers a great day out – and the business potential is huge

MY HAT: Stylish racegoers at Folkestone

But apart from the wining and dining, company promotion can be really off to the races if hospitality is combined with race sponsorship.

A business can advertise and heighten its profile by using the company name in race titles. It can have a race or a series of races throughout the day; mentioning its services or products in different races. Alternatively, it can just personalise the race title to celebrate a birthday, anniversary or any other special occasion.

Not many people realise the full benefits that can be reaped from sponsorship.

For example, the race title with a company name appears in most national daily newspapers, reaching some 30 million readers, and all meetings are now televised on Sky At The Races Channel.

That is available in 12 million UK and Irish homes via Sky, Virgin Media and UPC.

And www.attheraces.com attracts a predominantly male audience with a significant proportion of ABC1 viewers – 31 per cent of the At The Races audience consists of male ABC1 viewers in comparison with just 18 per cent of the total multi-channel TV audience.

Official figures show its reach as: Monthly, 1,483,828 different individuals; weekly 740,523 different individuals; daily 256,400 different individuals; and daily peak 456,400 different individuals.

Sponsors can also advertise in the race card with a full page full colour advertisement at no extra charge, and a company video may be shown through the CCTV system throughout the course.

The company/group name will be mentioned on the PA throughout the day and the party is invited to judge the best turned out horse in the paddock prior to the race as well as enjoy a glass of champagne in the directors' box during the race. The firm also has the opportunity to present the trophy to the winning connections in the winner's enclosure afterwards. And, on top of all this, three banner sites and other promotional material may be displayed around the course on the day. In fact, permanent banner sites are available on an annual or daily basis.

The premiere sites opposite the grandstand along the home straight are available for just £1,500 per year. These are in full view of the television cameras and everyone watching from the stand. There are more than 20 meetings a year, all with increasing attendance and full satellite coverage.

Race card advertising is included in race sponsorship, but is available separately. The race card may be sponsored for the entire year or individual meetings.

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RICHARD GREEN: 'Looking after your clients is essential during the economic downturn'

Face it and avoid false economies

Don't cut corners on hospitality – looking after your customers and meeting potential new ones has never been so important. **Richard Green**, advisor manager at Business Link, explains why networking is even more essential during a downturn

IT IS well worth investing the time and effort in the most effective kind of networking there is – face-to-face.

Although it might be tempting to lock yourself in the office in an attempt to get through as much work as possible and boost profits, it is not advisable.

It is vital to look after existing clients in a tough climate. Spending money on hospitality might seem like a false economy, but when competitors are cutting prices in order to attract new business, customer loyalty can count for a lot.

By meeting your clients, perhaps in a more social setting than you might normally see them, you can often discover that they require additional services they could be purchasing from you.

And if you know you have a happy customer on your hands who is willing to sing your praises, take along a potential client.

Attending events allows bosses to network, develop relationships with customers and meet potential new ones. Think about who you want to meet; are you only interested in meeting other Kent businesspeople or would you prefer to meet those in a specific sector? Once you have decided, target the events you attend accordingly.

Why not come along to a Business Link event and meet some of our advisors? Businesses that seek help and advice tend to be much more confident about the future.

Despite the fact that Business Link helped 23,000 businesses last year, it is still not fully appreciated that our services are free, ongoing, impartial and with no hidden agendas or strings attached.

Business Link runs many events across Kent which allow companies to meet like-minded people.

Currently, free boost your sales and profits half-day workshops are being held across the county.

This is not your usual workshop where you make a few notes and take home a few pointers – this is a one-off business review, a health check to take a refreshed look at your business and make changes.

Business Link has designed the workshops to help business owners with no more than two full-time employees increase their sales and profits and to create a financial plan to work from.

The workshop is free, but exclusively for Kent-based self-employed and owner-managers with no more than two full-time employees.

FROM LEFT: Eco-friendly Pines Calyx at St Margaret's Bay has teamed up with the nearby White Cliffs and Wallett's Court hotels to offer a new residential meetings package

Coastal path to a package of perfection

ONE of the UK's most eco-friendly conference and events venues, Pines Calyx at St Margaret's Bay, near Dover, has teamed up with two award-winning local hotels to offer a new residential meetings package, ***writes Tony Patey***.

Wallett's Court Hotel and the White Cliffs Hotel, both owned by the Oakley family, offer smaller, more intimate meetings and events, but for larger conferences they work closely with Pines Calyx, a carbon-neutral venue less than a mile away.

Pines Calyx has been built using sustainable materials and methods of construction, designed to minimise its ecological footprint.

All main walls are made of rammed chalk reclaimed from the levelling of the site, topped by an earth roof seeded with meadow grass.

It has three meeting rooms, the largest capable of handling up to 100 people, theatre-style.

Wallett's Court is a four-star country house hotel, restaurant and spa with a 17th century boardroom and 17 bedrooms.

The 15-bedroom White Cliffs centres around a traditional Kentish weather-boarded inn, parts of which date from Elizabethan times.

Both hotels have strong green credentials – they are members of the Green Tourism Business Scheme.

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The all-in packages include full use of conference facilities at Pines Calyx and dinner, bed and breakfast at either the White Cliffs or Wallett's Court.

The 24 hour rates per delegate start at £129 and £149 respectively.

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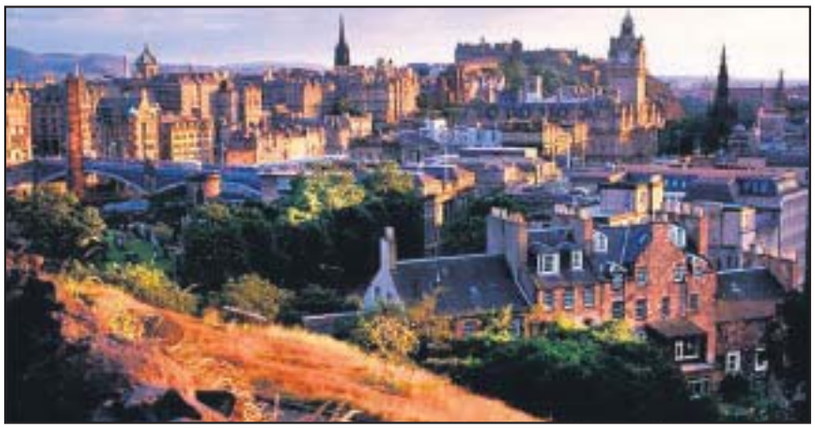
Holidaying bonanza on home front

LOOK NORTH: The Yorkshire Dales and Edinburgh are popular with Kent holidaymakers



KENT is set for a £32 million bonanza from domestic tourism and hospitality this summer, according to a new report.

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

The survey by hospitality and hotels group Travelodge looked at where Brits will be holidaying this year has discovered that Kent is on course to be a major financial winner this summer.

The Garden of England is set for a 25 per cent increase in the number of domestic visitors compared with 2008 and that should give the county a financial windfall running to over £30 million.

Guy Parsons, UK managing director of Travelodge, said: "With more Britons looking to holiday at home this summer it's really not surprising that so many are aiming to go to Kent.

"Although the county is not as well established as Cornwall or the Lake District as a tourist destination, a lot of hard work has been put in to showcase all there is to see and do. With a 25 per cent increase in the number of visitors this year, that hard work looks set to pay off."

Fran Warrington, head of Visit Kent at Kent County Council, said: "This is very encouraging research and reflects the optimism felt by many of our tourism, leisure and hospitality businesses about the forthcoming season. All we need now is for our visitors to be able to enjoy the long, hot summer being promised by forecasters."

Visit Kent is running a series of campaigns to boost the number of visitors to the county this summer including working with Southeastern making special offers to leading attractions available to people coming to Kent from London by train.

Meanwhile, businesses throughout the county working in the sector can take advantage of special staff training programmes and advice on quality standards, as well as the latest research, through the Visit Kent business to business pages on the Visit Kent website at www.visitkent.co.uk

The top 10 locations in terms of extra visitors this summer:

Location	increase in visitors (%)	Potential gain (£m)
Isle of Wight	157	344
Edinburgh	119	400
Yorkshire Dales	54	301
Kent	**25**	**32**
Lake District	24	70
Peak District	17	27
Northern Ireland	11	15
Highlands & Islands	9	65
Brighton & Hove	8	13
Snowdonia	8	13

More than 3,300 UK adult residents took part in the survey which was undertaken by OnePoll for Travelodge in May

Other survey findings:

- 40 per cent of people living in Kent are holidaying in the UK this summer
- 26 per cent are going abroad
- 16 per cent are having a UK break and a holiday abroad
- 18 per cent are not going away

The top locations for people from Kent:
- Edinburgh
- Yorkshire Dales
- Isle of Wight
- Cornwall
- Devon
- Lake District
- Bournemouth
- South Wales
- Blackpool
- Norfolk Broads

This year, holidaymakers from Kent will be spending on average £561.74.

Last year they spent £753.34, including:
- £82.51 travel
- £120.65 accommodation
- £95.59 eating out
- £169.69 attractions

The top five types of holidays Kent people will be having:
- Theme park
- Seaside
- Rural
- Food-themed break
- Spa break

Most people living in Kent will be going for a five-day British holiday, followed by seven and ten-day breaks. The top three locations people would recommend to a tourist are:
- Cornwall
- Yorkshire Dales
- Lake District

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Timeline

Kent on Sunday sport takes a look back at the county's sporting action of yesteryear

1909

100 YEARS AGO, JUNE 10: Evidence that the Isle of Sheppey was considered even more isolated a century ago than it is today is provided by the decision to exclude a Sheerness-based side from the Kent League for the 1909/1910 season.

The provisional line-up for the league was drawn-up, but Royal Garrison Artillery were left out in the cold "owing to their geographical" situation – they asked the league to reconsider.

Nor was there a place for Tunbridge Wells Rangers, who tried, unsuccessfully, to join the South Eastern League and had somewhat rashly already sent a letter to the KCFA, withdrawing from the county competition.

Middlesbrough signed Maidstone United goalkeeper Percy Tompsett, beating off competition from Tottenham Hotspur.

1959

JUNE 5 1959: A series of records fell at the Kent Athletics championships, held at the Erith Stadium. Blackheath Harriers' Ted Sampson broke a record for the 440 yards, recording 48.3 seconds, knocking 0.9 of a second of the previous year's mark, while John Winch broke the half-mile and mile records.

For the mile event he completed two laps in 2.04.8 seconds and set a time 4.10.5 at the end, winning by 14 yards from JR Pettitt of Aylesford Paper Mills.

Just three quarters of an hour later he'd recovered to shave nine seconds of the half-mile record, setting a time of 1.55.

The Mid-Kent Committee of the County Hockey Association was formed, with a view to recruiting players from previously neglected areas for the county team.

1984

25 YEARS AGO: At the age of 40, Gloucestershire's John Shepherd destroyed Kent's chances of going top of the County Championship, by taking 9 for 26 at Canterbury as Kent lost by six wickets.

In the John Player League, however, Kent had the upper hand against Gloucestershire. Richard Ellison underlined England credentials with 84 runs and then took 4 for 52 as Kent won by 13 runs. Alan Knott chipped in with 29 not out.

Teenager Lee Petters, 13, won a golf tournament in Bearsted, beating a host of senior players. Lee, from the Walmer & Kingsdown Club, admitted he had never even had a lesson, but had been playing for four years.

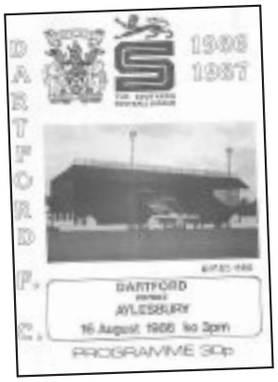
ENGLAND HOPE: Richard Ellision, with David Gower in 1985, after beating Australia in the fifth Test at Edgbaston

From rags to riches

Club's long journey from Watling Street to Princes Park

Going over old ground

By FRED ATKINS



WORLDS APART: A Dartford programme for game at Watling Street in 1986 and the club's fabulous new stadium at Princes Park

WATLING Street, Dartford, hosted FA Trophy semi-finals, a Football League play-off semi-final, honed the managerial talents of Peter Taylor and John Still and was a launch pad for Andy Hessenthaler's playing career.

It ended up as another vapid housing estate, victim of the nefarious agenda of a former chairman.

After a nomadic, formative spell from 1888, Dartford set up shop at Summers Meadow in Lowfield Street, but with the help of local businesses, the club reformed as a limited company and in 1921 a home was built on the old Roman Road of Watling Street in Stone.

Atmosphere

The Darts evolved into one of the top semi-professional sides in the country, winning multiple Southern League honours and regularly troubling League sides in the FA Cup.

Watling Street was an integral part of the success.

The grass banking behind the goals and the proximity of the terracing to the pitch generated an intimidating atmosphere, particularly when it was full.

A crowd of 11,004 was reported to have attended an FA Cup tie with Leyton Orient in the 1948/49 season, with a similar number watching Gravesend & Northfleet host Sunderland in the same competition a couple of decades later.

After a second round draw with Bournemouth in 1984, television cameras entered the dressing room to film the players' reaction to the third round draw and viewers were greeted by bearded men in underpants leaping around in joy when they were paired with Manchester United.

The Darts lost the replay and despite the side's progress under Peter Taylor, trouble loomed when they allowed Maidstone United to move in as tenants in 1988.

Co-habitation initially benefited both clubs, but when United unexpectedly won promotion to the Football League a year later, they needed to make substantial improvements to meet the league's entry criteria.

It may have been one of the county's top grounds, but in terms of facilities it was vastly inferior to Princes Park and by Football League standards it was arguably the worst of the 92, with only Northampton's County Ground and Halifax's Shay posing any serious competition.

In 1992 the pay-off arrived, with a staggering, but apparently legal boardroom manoeuvre.

With Dartford and Maidstone both in financial danger, United chairman Jim Thompson joined the Darts' board.

A clause in Dartford's constitution said that in the event of the club folding, any assets would be used to help it reform.

Thompson, astonishingly, persuaded the other directors to waive this clause.

Perhaps their only crime was naivety - as Mike Ashley has shown, otherwise successful businessmen often leave their brains in the cloakroom when they get involved with football clubs.

But the cost of the ground improvements was then "sold" to Dartford and both clubs went under in quick succession, with Watling Street sold to pay creditors.

A few people undoubtedly did very well out of the deal, but a site that was a focal point for an entire community was lost.

It wasn't illegal, but whether it was immoral or not was best summed up by the Kent author Mike Floate, who went to see the ground when it was being demolished.

"I was stood at the gate when an old man was pushed along in his wheelchair. His carer parked him by the gate and left him there, going over the road to buy a paper.

"Neither he nor I said anything, he just looked sadly into the half-demolished ground. How I wish those involved in the destruction of this ground had seen his sadness."

It can only be hoped he lived to see the day Princes Park opened.

Ex-Kent ace Edrich dies

BRIAN Edrich, who passed away last Sunday at the age of 86, was that rarity on the cricketing circuit, a left-handed batsmen who bowled right-handed.

Edrich was a member of a cricketing clan – he had three brothers who played First Class cricket (Bill, Eric and Geoff), though the most talented member of his family was his cousin, John who played 77 Tests for England.

Born in Cantley, Norfolk on August 18, 1922, Edrich was one of a generation of cricketers whose career was put on hold by the World War Two.

Having made his debut for the seconds in 1939, he didn't make his first-team bow until 1947 and had to wait two years to receive his county cap.

1949 saw arguably Edrich's finest hour as a cricketer, ironically in a losing cause.

Kent were playing their traditional Tunbridge Wells derby fixture with Sussex at The Nevill, but they allowed their neighbours to post 482 for 9 in their first innings.

Edrich hit 60 in Kent's first innings and a career-best 193 in the second, which included a record ninth wicket partnership of 161 with Frank Ridgway, in a six-wicket defeat.

Earlier that summer Edrich recorded career-best bowling figures of 7 for 41 against Hampshire. He passed 1,000 runs for the season just once, in 1951.

He moved to Glamorgan in 1954 and drifted into coaching, though he was still playing minor counties cricket for Oxfordshire in 1970.

At the end of his First Class playing days Edrich had scored 5529 runs at an average of 19.96 and taken 137 wickets at 33.18 apiece.

VICTORIOUS: The England side in 1966 after beating the West Indies. Edrich is second on the left (top) in between Geoff Boycott and Basil D'Oliveria Picture: GETTY IMAGES

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Budget cuts force 'Mr Fleet' to quit

OUTGOING Ebbsfleet United club secretary Roly Edwards fears for the club's future after budget cuts forced players and staff to leave this week.

Edwards, who has been involved with the club on a voluntary basis for 15 years, decided to call it a day after watching the majority of the players released this week and assistant boss Alan Kimble shown the door.

A major reduction in interest from the club's website owners has forced Fleet to slash its players' budget to £5,000 a week, down by 50 per cent on last season.

As a result of being unable to pay players a full-time wage, the majority of the squad are available to talk to other clubs, with only five contracted to stay at Stonebridge Road.

Edwards had seen enough.

"I was getting frustrated with how long it took for things to happen at the club," he said.

"There are a lot of good people at MyFc doing a lot of work, but I do feel they have been naive. The whole concept is still evolving.

"Hindsight is a wonderful thing, but I do believe things could have been done differently.

"I think it would be foolish not to fear for the club's future and Liam Daish is certainly going to have a tough task on his hands trying to keep the club in the league with what really is a relegation budget."

Daish is set to continue as manager of the club after MyFc members voted to extend his contract.

Daish, who celebrated four years in charge at Stonebridge Road last season, is disappointed to see Edwards and Kimble leave, but is ready for the challenge ahead.

"Obviously I am glad to be staying on at the club, but now I face the difficult task of recruiting players and putting a squad together," he said.

"To lose Alan and Roly is a big blow too and I think it will be hard to find anyone to fill those shoes.

"We are probably going to have to look at bringing in young players, who have been released by bigger clubs, as I have no money to spend on players."

HAPPIER TIMES: Roly Edwards (left) with director Brian Kilcullen (back) and new assistant boss Paul McCarthy at Wembley for the FA Trophy final last season

Wind of a signing

EXPERIENCED: Dean Windass sends Hull into the Premiership last year
Picture: GETTY IMAGES

Gills boss in move to sign veteran Deano

GILLINGHAM held talks with veteran striker Dean Windass this week in a bid to bring the former Hull City striker to Priestfield next season, ***writes David Pritchard.***

The 40-year-old was released by the Premier League club on Tuesday and spoke to Gills boss Mark Stimson about a possible move. The newly promoted club are looking to add firepower to the squad for next season, but reports suggest Windass will join Darlington as a player/coach instead.

Stimson told Kent on Sunday a deal was now unlikely, but felt the fact he was even able to discuss a deal with someone who played in the Premier League last season showed how far the club had come.

"I have spoken to Dean, but I don't think it's going to happen if I'm honest", he said. "This time last year, Dean Windass scored the winning goal to get Hull into the Premier League, while we were getting relegated to League Two.

"I think credit's got to go to the club that we can get on the phone and talk to these people now; they are interested in talking to us.

"All across the board we're looking to improve on next season and people of that calibre will I'm sure help us do that."

As well as at least one striker, the Gills are hoping to bring in a winger, a ball-playing central midfielder and a centre-back during the close season.

Andy Barcham would fulfil the winger's role if he agrees to a new deal.

Constructive negotiations have been held but a decision is not expected until after the former Tottenham forward returns from holiday later this month.

Glenn Poole, who played for Stimson at Grays and has been released by Brentford, has spoken with the club but may be surplus to requirements if Barcham signs.

Kevin Maher is the top target for the midfielder spot and the Gills were expecting a decision from the 32-year-old after Kent on Sunday went to press.

Stimson also enquired about Peterborough defender Shane Blackett, but with the Championship club looking for a transfer fee, a move is unlikely.

Fears over Jacko burn-out

SIMEON Jackson may need special attention next season to avoid suffering from fatigue if he is included in Canada's Gold Cup squad, according to manager Mark Stimson.

The 22-year-old striker played his 50th game of the season last weekend, scoring on his international debut against Cyprus.

His 22nd goal of the season boosted his hopes of being included in Stephen Hart's squad for next month's tournament in the USA, which is North America's version of the European Championships.

If Jackson was picked it would extend his season to more than a year after starting pre-season training last summer.

Stimson is not overly concerned despite the chance of his top scorer missing some of pre-season, although he did admit the striker's condition would have to be closely scrutinised next season if the call comes.

HECTIC SCHEDULE: Striker Simeon Jackson
Picture: ADY KERRY

He said: "We might have to monitor it in the season because he's gone a full calendar playing, but I'm sure he'll be fine.

"Age is on his side, he's so young and fit he probably won't need a full pre-season like some of the other boys because he hasn't had as much time off.

"We expect him to come back with a smile on his face and hopefully take us on. It's a massive tournament, he's training with international players.

"If he can adapt to it then it's only going to make him a better player and he might come back with something a bit different than what he had last year."

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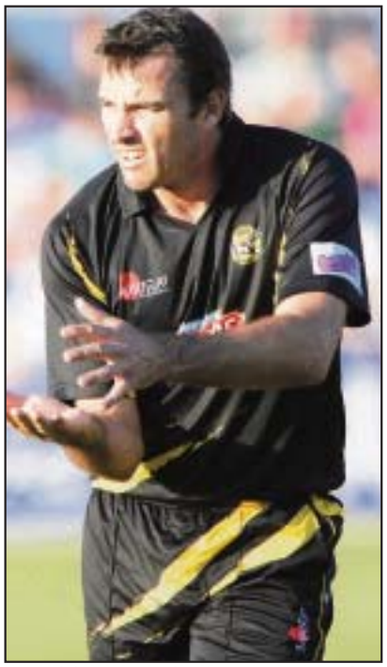


WITHDRAWAL: Justin Kemp's decision to pull out of the ICL could help Kent's cause

Champions League spot may still be up for grabs for Kent

JUSTIN Kemp and Azhar Mahmood's decision to pull out of the Indian Cricket League (ICL) has paved the way for Kent to compete in the Champions League – if they qualify.

The Kent duo played two seasons in the controversial ICL, a competition not sanctioned by the International Cricket Council, but have taken the decision to distance themselves from the competition and commit to playing at Kent.

Former South African international Kemp would have had to renegotiate a deal to play in the Twenty20 event, but Mahmood still had a year left on his contract.

For Kemp, he is just glad to have ended the saga which nearly saw him miss out on re-signing for Kent last season.

Agreement

He told Kent on Sunday: "The reason I signed for ICL was to play cricket for Kent. I had an offer from the Indian Premier League and that would have been a whole lot easier but obviously I would have lost a month-and-a-half of cricket with Kent.

"We came to a mutual agreement that playing ICL would be better and would give me more time for Kent, but it proved to be the wrong decision.

"I'm just glad it's over but is one of those offers that you just couldn't turn down.

"In hindsight I wouldn't have done it again and it's nice to be able to play with nothing over your head, that's a nice feeling.

"People had this perception that I was a rebel and when I came back from India it felt as though I had killed someone – that was the perception that flew around the ICL and that's pretty wrong."

If Kent were to make the final of this year's Twenty20 Cup, they would be able to play in the Champions League, an event they missed out on last season because of Kemp and Mahmood's involvement in the ICL.

the 35,000 that watched the FA Cup tie with Aston Villa in January and Kent is

months later. "One was a nightmare when

is desperate for promotion

struggle to make ends meet on its

www.kentnews.co.uk

Kent wait on Champions League decision

KENT will be eagerly awaiting the outcome of a "Johannesburg Jaunt" this month that could allow the club to qualify for the Champions League this season, writes *Glenn Pearson*.

The county failed to qualify for the inaugural event last summer, despite having reached the Twenty20 final at the Rose Bowl, because of the ongoing dispute with the ICL and its ban with the wider Indian Cricket League.

Kent's inclusion in their squad of Justin Kemp and Azhar Mahmood, who both featured in the Indian Twenty20 competition, meant the club missed out on taking part in the event that includes teams from England, India, South Africa and Australia.

Now, it is hoped a meeting of the International Cricket Council on May 21 will see an amicable between the two rival Twenty20 competitions – the Indian Premier League and the Indian Cricket League – which would see Kent's performance would be enough to qualify for the Champions League and Twenty20 events.

The Champions League would have taken place last year has a packed international schedule, combined with the perennial attack in India, saw the event shelved for a year.

Kent chairman, George Kennedy has asked whether the county – who would have qualified for the tournament had reached the final of England's domestic Twenty20 competition – could be given reprieve and allowed to compete in the Champions League in October instead, with Leicester Middlesex, last season's cup winners, not much hope.

He said: "If there were an amicable with ICL and the IPL it would mean we would be able to qualify for the Champions League, we were to get to a final again.

"The first step is to see what happens, I know the organisers want to ask if we might be able to do it, I was flying a kite really just and I'm sure it's highly unlikely."

DECISION: How we reported Kent's hopes of a Champions League place on May 10

Ladies point to Twenty20 title victory

England skipper eyes trophy

By GLENN PEARSON

AFTER winning the Ashes and more recently the ICC Women's World Cup in Australia, England have set their sights on the inaugural World Twenty20.

Led by Kent skipper Charlotte Edwards, England are the team to beat in the competition and the fact it's being staged in this country, including the final at Lord's ahead of the men's World Twenty20 final, puts added pressure on the side.

The England side, which also includes Kent's left-hander Lydia Greenway, have been preparing for the competition by playing against a series of county academy sides and Dulwich College to ensure they are ready for the World Twenty20.

Edwards, 29, believes the experience will put her side in good stead and sent a stark warning to the rest of the international teams, that England are better prepared than they were for the World Cup.

Comfort zone

"It's been good preparation because it was about getting us out of our comfort zone and having to deal with it as a bowling unit, playing against men who would hit it a lot further if you were just lightly off line," she said.

"We played against our girls' academy after that and found it a lot easier than against the boys. I think we are more prepared than we were for the World Cup."

Being a fan of the Twenty20 format, and regarded as one of the best players of 20-over cricket in the world, Edwards admits the competition is likely to bring the nations closer in terms of ability.

While you are unlikely to see a six-hitting innings typical of a Chris Gayle or Brendon McCullum, the women's game has come on leaps and bounds in recent years and their ability to manoeuvre the ball around the ground and athleticism in the field is catching up with the men's game.

Edwards said: "We are not going to hit the ball out of the ground but there will be lots of fours and our fielding has really come on and is up there with the men's game, I think it will be exciting to watch. It's such an exciting format as there's always something happening."

RARING TO GO: Charlotte Edwards and Lydia Greenway (above) are part of the England squad looking to build on Ashes and World Cup success in the World Twenty20 Pictures: ADY KERRY

Edwards' job these days is as much about managing the hype around the England side and ensuring her young side remain focused on the job at hand.

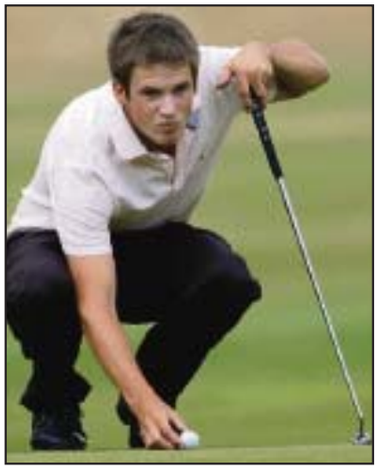
Having beaten all the top sides in the past two years, including Australia, New Zealand and India, England's players will have to deal with the tag of being favourites for the first time in their career.

"I would rather be up there than not, but it's new territory for a lot of us and I'm sure there will be huge expectation again but thankfully we have a level-headed bunch," Edwards said.

"If we are seen as favourites then so be it, I guess after our success we are the team to beat. There is a lot of hype around the team which I think is good because the girls have worked hard to get to the top, but the best thing about them is they want to get better and better."

England begin their campaign on Thursday against India at Taunton.

Pictures: TOM WARD



ENGLAND PICK: GOLFER Matt Haines

Amateur golfer set to take on the Aussies

MATT Haines has the chance to boost his Walker Cup hopes by taking part in amateur golf's answer to the Ashes next week.

The 19-year-old, from Medway, has been included in the five-man England squad to challenge Australia in a Ryder Cup style matchplay tournament at Scotland's famous Royal Birkdale course.

All five members of the England team have been included in the Walker Cup provisional squad.

Haines will be eager to produce to help his chances of being selected in the final 10-man Great Britain Walker Cup team to play in the amateur game's version of the Ryder Cup held in September this year.

The Ashes tournament is a relatively new concept for amateur golf with the inaugural competition held two years ago.

Australia have won both events so far, with England agonisingly close to a victory last year with a 13-12 defeat.

The format of the tournament will comprise of two foursomes followed by five single matches on both days. The event begins on Wednesday.

Haines, a regular in the England team, has had a successful 2009 season with four tournament victories including the coveted Berkhamsted Trophy earlier this year.

Club could miss out on European Open return

Turnberry main competition to stage 2010 tournament

By DAVID PRITCHARD

THE European Tour will hold discussions with the London Golf Club in the next fortnight about the future of the European Open.

Last week the club, near Ash, hosted the four-day event for the second successive year, with almost 90,000 people flocking to watch the top-class field.

Turnberry, hosts of this year's Open Championship, are rumoured to be in the running to host next year's European Open.

George O'Grady, European Tour chief executive, denied a decision had been made regarding the venue for 2010, but revealed whatever happened it would be likely to return the following year.

He said: "I think you can be pretty certain we will be playing here when The Open's at Royal St George's [in 2011], we got our eye on that and we'll take a view on next year depending on whether it fits in with the plans of the London Club and ourselves. The Tour would be very happy to come back here, but nothing has been decided.

"The conditioning has been exemplary, even our top players who have had tough rounds haven't complained about the set-up. The condition of the greens in particular have been immaculate."

Although a relative newcomer to the scene, the London Club is firmly in the Tour's plans. Last weekend it was announced the two had agreed a 50/50 partnership with a view to developing the site. It will be known as a European Tour Destination, greatly increasing its profile worldwide. Under the plans the Tour will also establish a regional office at the club.

Having closer ties with the Tour should improve the club's chances of hosting big tournaments on a yearly basis. Heath Harvey, general manager at the London Club, told Kent on Sunday the club was cautious about looking too far ahead but admitted they would welcome the chance to stage regular events.

"We would love to have a tournament here every year if that was the right thing for the club", he said. "I think the reality is we need to go away at the end of the event and see what everybody thought of it as a venue.

"As much as last year was good it was a starter. We have tried to raise the bar again this year and I dare say with every one of these events you take a little step closer to perfecting it. Our way of getting tournaments in the future is getting the one that's under our feet right, not thinking about what's down the road."

One option if the club lost the European Open next year would be a return of the Seniors Tour, which last visited in 2007.

DECISION: Thousands attended the European Open at the London Club, which also staged the event last year Picture: ADY KERRY

Mosley praise for new F2

FIA president Max Mosley has praised Brands Hatch owner Jonathan Palmer for his work in reviving the new-look Formula Two Championship.

Palmer, head of MotorSportVision which owns Kent's Brands Hatch, has ploughed £5 million into a series that had previously spent 25 years in the wilderness.

With the help of the Williams Formula One team, who designed and built the 25 identical cars, the championship completed a successful debut at Valencia last weekend. Canadian Robert Wickens won both races.

The new championship provides budding Formula One hopefuls with a competitive championship in identical cars.

They will race all over the world on a budget of £200,000, peanuts in motorsport terms and a quarter of the costs for racing in GP2 – Formula One's feeder series.

The prize for the champion is a test with the Williams Formula One team.

Mosley, who took time out of his Formula One schedule to attend the F2 launch, was impressed and believes the championship will produce future Formula One stars.

He said: "Jonathan Palmer and Williams have done an absolutely fantastic job. The championship, the racing and the whole set up is extraordinary and it has been a really great success.

REVIVED: Formula 2 has been revamped by Brands Hatch owner, Jonathan Palmer

"The barriers to entry have just been too big and too expensive in the past, and this championship is a means for people to get into Formula One without spending a fortune.

"I wouldn't be at all surprised to see some drivers from this year's Formula Two championship progress into Formula One."

The Formula Two series heads to Kent's Brands Hatch as part of the World Touring Car Championship weekend on July 19.

Bridger eyes F1 chance

ASPIRING single-seater racer Jay Bridger could be set for a role in Britain's newest Formula One team, pending a FIA decision next week.

The driver from, Horsmonden, near Tonbridge, drives for the Litespeed Formula 3 team who have applied to join the 2010 Formula One world championship.

The Norfolk-based team are one of six entries to have applied to enter Formula One, hoping to take advantage of the £40 million budget cap rules for 2010. A decision on Litespeed's entry will be announced next Friday by the FIA.

Bridger, 21, who only joined the Litespeed team last month, is hoping he will be handed a role in the team for their possible Formula One campaign.

He said: "They have spoken about their Formula One ambitions when I signed for them and it is great to be part of a team who want to move forward.

"They seem very confident they will be on the grid in Formula One next season so we will have to wait and see.

"We have all got our fingers crossed for the decision. There is nothing concrete yet but hopefully I will be included."

Bridger is in action at the world famous Hockenheim circuit in Germany this afternoon for the fourth meeting of the British Formula 3 Championship.

LIFE OF RYAN IS IN THE BALANCE

Visa problems could force Kent Kolpak star out of county cricket

By **GLENN PEARSON**

RYAN McLaren admits his future might lie elsewhere next season if an agreement is reached this week about the use of Kolpak players in county cricket.

The South African all-rounder told Kent on Sunday that he may have to consider playing somewhere other than England next year because of further changes to visa and work permit regulations.

McLaren has been told he may not meet specific new regulations as a Kolpak player which could see the end of his three-year association with Kent.

Qualify

"From what I understand if you have played a certain amount of cricket you will qualify for a work permit or visa to play in the country and if you haven't, your chances aren't great," he said.

"There might not be that opportunity of playing Kolpak in the future as it's based on your international pedigree and I haven't played international cricket, so it all depends what criteria they set for next year.

"It's something that's out of our hands and we can only respond to what decisions are made."

It would come as a big blow to the county as the 26-year-old has been an integral part of the side in all forms of the game.

Chairmen across the country are due to meet with England and Wales Cricket Board chairman Giles Clarke on Tuesday where it is expected Kolpak cricketers and issues of visas will be discussed.

Kent chairman George Kennedy divulged that there is a feeling among the country's top brass that only English qualified players should be allowed to play county cricket, not a view shared in Canterbury.

He said: "There are other counties that want only English qualified players but we are not in tune with that.

"Some ask, is it worth the hassle of going through the whole visa route, but for us we should be playing the best team for our club's supporters."

Whether the decision will have any bearing on Kent's other two Kolpakkers, Justin Kemp and Martin van Jaarsveld, remains unclear, although both have played international cricket.

For McLaren, he hopes it won't spell the end of his time at St Lawrence.

"Whatever capacity I come over to play at Kent, be it overseas, I would like to play here at some stage in the future," he said.

"I have had a great time and I have a great relationship with people at Kent. I have been very well looked after and well supported so I am very happy here, but it comes down to the next couple of months and what decisions are made."

Picture: ADY KERRY

ISSUES: Ryan McLaren says work permit regulations may force him and other Kolpak players out of county cricket

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Spitfires want light shed on defeat

EXCLUSIVE

KENT have asked the England and Wales Cricket Board to look into Thursday night's Twenty20 Cup defeat to Sussex Sharks at Hove, ***writes Glenn Pearson.***

The Kent Spitfires were denied a chance of victory after floodlight failure helped the Sharks on the way to a two-run win under the Duckworth/Lewis method.

A generator fuel pump at the North End of the Hove ground meant that eight floodlights near to Cromwell Road remained unlit all night.

After the Spitfires had reduced the Sharks to just 131 for 3 from their allotted 20 overs, the problem arose when it was Kent's turn to bat. Openers Joe Denly (32) and Darren Stevens (27) were cautious in their approach to 61 without loss, but by the 11th over Kent had fallen behind the asking run rate for only the second time in the innings.

IN THE DARK: Four of the unlit floodlights at the Hove ground during Kent's defeat

Sharks skipper Michael Yardy used his trump card by asking medium-fast bowler Robin Martin-Jenkins to bowl, prompting the umpires to take the sides off for bad light. The decision gifted Sussex a two-run victory via Duckworth/Lewis.

Now Kent chairman George Kennedy has asked the ECB to look into the matter.

"We have given the ECB our version of the situation and it's up to them to check with Sussex and hopefully they will put it right," he said. "There seemed to be great confusion as to whether the lights were working before the game and we have asked for evidence.

"It's the duty of the home team to make sure they are fit for purpose. If they are not, then that's something that needs to be looked into."

Kent have dropped to fourth in the Twenty20 South division as a result of the defeat.

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